

Shepherd's Bush

CHRONICLE

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FREE

Thursday, January 21st 2016

London demands memorial concert  Page 7

Promise to freeze council tax bills

BY JACK DIXON

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TOWN Hall bosses are planning to freeze council tax for Fulham residents this year, as part of a "radical" new budget for 2016/17.

Hammersmith and Fulham council will not increase its share of the annual council tax charge, under spending plans due to be signed off next month.

It means the charge for a typical Band D property will remain at £727.81, despite government pressure to raise fees.

The council, which was the only authority in London to cut council tax in 2015, says it has generated more than £50 million by renegotiating planning deals, while identifying further savings worth several hundreds of thousands of pounds.

Council leader Stephen Cowan said: "We are rejecting the government's suggestion that we raise council tax this year. Instead, we have introduced new and radical ways of setting budgets and achieving smarter savings."

"This has enabled us to defend Charing Cross Hospital, freeze council tax, pay for record numbers of police on local streets and protect frontline services, such as refuse collection and street cleaning."

Despite high property prices in the borough, Hammersmith and Fulham residents pay the third lowest rate of council tax in the country.

Data from the Taxpayers' Alliance revealed last month that residents have also seen their bills reduced in nine of the last 19 years – more than any other council.

Over the last 12 months, councilor allowances have been slashed by 10 per cent, while further savings have been found in office and IT costs.

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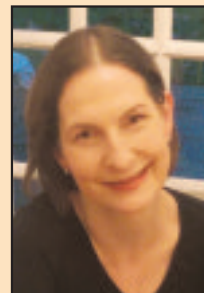
■ **LET'S DANCE:** Commuters were surprised to find a burlesque dancer posing for artists as they hopped on the tube last week. Passengers on the Hammersmith and City line were handed paper and pencils, and invited to sketch the dancer during their journey. The exhibition was organised to show off the new 'Burlsketch' life-drawing classes held by Wonderush.com, an online 'lifestyle subscription service' that encourages Londoners to try their hand at unusual new experiences.

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Help 200 'forgotten children'

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Belinda's a good match for Craven Cottage pie

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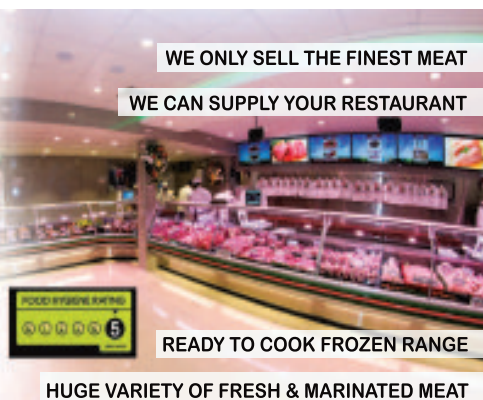


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Exciting new future for your paper

NEWSPAPER proprietor Sir Ray Tindle has sealed a ground-breaking deal which passes ownership of some of his leading titles to the people who run them.

The *South London Press*, the *Mercury*, the *London Weekly News* titles, including the *Fulham Chronicle*, *Hammersmith Chronicle*, *Shepherd's Bush Chronicle*, *Kensington & Chelsea News* and the *Westminster & Pimlico News* series – as well as the *View From* series of newspapers in Dorset and *Pulman's Weekly News* in Devon and Somerset, now pass into the hands of executives Philip Evans, Karen Sheppard and Hannah Walker.

However, Sir Ray insists the deal does not signal his retirement. He is now celebrating his 90th year and has no intention of standing back from front-line management. He says the sale is to ensure the long life of the papers, which in-

clude some of the oldest in the country. The deal still leaves him with ownership of approaching 200 titles across the country (plus percentages from 8% to 49% in more than another 200 papers, which means his interest in the local press still totals more than 400 titles). He intends to remain hands-on.

In this unique deal Sir Ray also remains a 10% shareholder in the newspapers, with Karen, Philip and Hannah holding equal shares of 30% each. The new group owned by Karen, Philip and Hannah is called Capital Media Newspapers Limited and will continue to operate from London and Lyme Regis.

The *South London Press* celebrated its 150th anniversary in 2015 and Sir Ray threw a party on board HMS Belfast in London, attended by HRH the Countess of Wessex, Secretary of State For Culture Media and Sport John Whittingdale and the entire staff of the paper.

At the event Sir Ray emphasised the key role local newspapers play up and down the country and how they are fundamental to democracy.

Sir Ray, who bought his first paper after receiving demobilisation money, as did all those who were in the Army during the Second World War, has a career history of making failing newspapers viable.

With a staff he describes as one of the very best in the UK press, Tindle Newspapers has launched, or bought up, 47 titles since the start of the last recession.

ON this latest announcement Sir Ray said it made complete sense to sell the London and West Country titles to the people who currently run them. He wished Karen, Hannah and Philip and the whole staff all the very best for the future. He said the staffs of these papers were superb.

Certain co-operative ventures,

such as the current move into digital media, which is already showing results, will continue under the control of Scott Wood.

Philip, who originally launched the successful *View From* series, said: "Having managed local newspapers in London earlier in my career, I am looking forward to the challenge of working alongside Karen and Hannah in continuing to build our stable of titles in the capital as well as retaining my Dorset links with *Pulman's Weekly News* and the *View From* series, which I launched in 2005.

"All three of us share Sir Ray's undeviating faith in the future of local newspapers and we are excited by the opportunity he has given us and the talented staff we will lead."

Karen, who has been managing director of the *South London Press* for 18 months and who successfully managed Sir Ray's business in Farnham previously, said: "This

is an extraordinary opportunity, one which I embrace wholeheartedly.

"I look forward to continuing the successful programme of change and improvements the team have been working on for the past 12 months, building on the launch of new titles in central London and enhancing the reputation of the *South London Press* as one of the capital's iconic local newspapers – with 150 years of history behind it."

Hannah, who has edited the *South London Press* for the last 16 years and who began her career as a reporter nearly 30 years ago in Birmingham, said: "It's always been a huge privilege editing these papers in South London and now to have the chance to steer them further to a healthy future is a huge challenge and opens up yet another new era for these fantastic titles and the brilliant staff who work for them. All three of us cannot wait to get started."



Part of Capital Media Newspapers Limited

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Kensington & Chelsea News

(Established 1857 & 1869)

Fulham Chronicle

(Established 1888)

Hammersmith Chronicle

(Established 2015)

Shepherd's Bush Chronicle

(Established 2015)

London Weekly News

(Established 2014)

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Students showcase their talents as college enters new year with vigour

BY LWN REPORTER

editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

WESTMINSTER'S DLD College London students showcased their impressive talents at the recently held annual winter concert.

Hosted at the iconic St Marylebone Parish Church, not only did the students from the Westminster Bridge Road college delight with a variety of performances, they were given individual awards to celebrate their exceptional achievements.

Master of Ceremonies Michael Brett welcomed guests to enjoy the students' theatrics. Students, alumni, parents and teachers gathered in unison to support the highly anticipated concert and were entertained by an assortment of acts from harpists and pianists to classical Shakespeare readings.

The afternoon was filled with performances such as *Brave* played on the harp along with vocals, and the ukulele club gave a rendition of *Love is on the Radio* by McFly's Tom Fletcher.

A special award was given to one surprised student, Jacob Nico-Katz, 16, who was recognised for his inspiring enthusiasm to the ukulele group.

The A-level media studies, drama, art and ICT student was overwhelmed as he also received a second award for his commitment and initiative to the drama club.

Principal of DLD College London, Rachel Borland commented: "We have seen some brilliant talent from our young people. The concert is designed specifically to recognise the students who have excelled in giving an outstanding contribution to the college. We do not just focus on academic success – it is also about developing and pushing yourself and enjoying the journey."

"This concert is about re-



■ **THAT'S ENTERTAINMENT:** The ukulele club performs for DLD College parents, friends and fellow students.



■ **SURPRISES:** Jacob Nico-Katz, above, receives an award from principal Rachel Borland. Below: Thomas Eastaugh performs.



newal, rebirth, restoration, revival, regeneration and resumption. It is our turn now to renew our energy, determination and motivation for 2016."

During the concert a collection was also made for The Marylebone Project, a charity run by the Church Army to help vulnerable homeless women.

If anyone would like to watch or re-watch the excellent ceremony, it was all caught on camera and can be viewed at <http://bit.ly/1QEGIME>

Founded in 1931, DLD College London is one of the oldest and most prestigious colleges in the UK, and since its foundation it has built a strong reputation amongst students, parents, schools and universities.

In September 2015, the college relocated to new, purpose-built premises in the heart of London, on 199 Westminster Bridge Road, overlooking Westminster and the River Thames.

The college offers students the chance to study a wide range and flexible combination of A-Levels, GCSEs, International Foundation courses and BTEC courses.

As part of the Alpha Plus Group, DLD College aims to maintain a gold standard of educational quality. Classes are small, enabling students and teachers to focus upon the most effective ways of learning.

To find out more about DLD College London go to www.dld-college.co.uk

Charles salutes social worker

A SOCIAL worker who helped to provide a stable and caring environment for hundreds of vulnerable children and young people for 30 years has received an MBE from Prince Charles at a ceremony at Buckingham Palace.

Joan Jackson-Callen, a Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea children's social worker, has for many years run Creswick Road Hostel – a facility for young people who are looked after or leaving care.

During this time Mrs Jackson-Callen has shown great dedication to those she was responsible for and worked tirelessly to provide them with a safe and secure home.

Speaking after the ceremony



■ **HONOURED:** Social worker Joan Jackson-Callen.

she said: "The nerves didn't really hit me until just before my name was announced. Lucky for me the time I had spent practis-

ing my curtsy was justified as I performed two!"

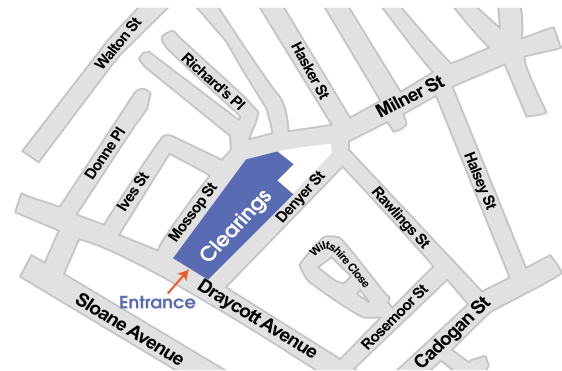
Mrs Jackson-Callen added: "Prince Charles thanked me for my work over the years and said that the profession was lucky to have people like me which made me feel very proud. It really was a wonderful day."

Councillor Elizabeth Campbell, Cabinet Member for Family and Children's Services, praised Mrs Jackson-Callen's dedication and service, saying: "I am delighted that Joan had such a special day at Buckingham Palace."

"Her MBE is well deserved and reflects so well on the care Joan has provided to some of the most vulnerable young people in the council's care."

mcgrove

Public exhibition on the redevelopment of the Clearings building, Draycott Avenue, SW3



A second and final public exhibition on plans for the redevelopment of the Clearings building will be held at the interim Marlborough Primary School, currently located at the Clearings site on Draycott Avenue, SW3, on:

Friday 29th January 6.30pm – 8.30pm

Saturday 30th January 10am – 2pm

McGrove Developments would like to invite you to attend and provide us with your feedback.

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Residents fight the 'silent killer'

LOCAL people are taking the lead in a scheme to help tackle Hammersmith and Fulham's air quality crisis.

Members of the borough's resident-led air pollution commission are beginning work on an ambitious research project to find out how poor air quality affects people's lives.

Experts at Kings College London say Hammersmith and Fulham's 'silent killer' contributes to the deaths of more than 200 people each year.

The Air Quality Commission was launched during the autumn and will report back to councillors next year with several recommendations about the best way to deal with one of the capital's biggest environmental dilemmas.

Rosemary Pettit, who is chairing the seven-person commission, said: "Air pollution is a serious risk to people's health. It is important to discover what this pollution is, where it is coming from and what we can do to tackle it."

The commission is now beginning the huge task of gathering evidence and is encouraging residents to play their part by sharing information.

It wants to know:
■ if changes in air quality are noticeable at different times of the day;

■ if there is a difference between air quality in Hammersmith and Fulham and other London boroughs;

■ whether residents have made changes to their daily routine – such as taking an alternative route to work – because of air quality issues.

Ms Pettit, who is a former chair of the Hammersmith Society and membership secretary of the Brackenbury Residents' Association, will be joined on the commission by BBC News producer Kate Forbes, commercial director David Chamberlain, Friends of the Earth campaigner Andrew Pendleton, Reading University professor Derek Clements-Croome, NHS consultant Dr Leonardo Monzon, and the principal of Fulham music school Music'all, Natalie Lindsay.

Councillor Stephen Cowan, leader of Hammersmith and Fulham council, which set up the commission last year, said: "We are determined to cut air pollution in Hammersmith and Fulham."

"Rosemary has a track record of leading positive change for residents and I am delighted she has agreed to head up this review."

To offer information or evidence to the commission, contact Peter Smith at Hammersmith and Fulham council by email at peter.smith@lbhf.gov.uk.



■ **GOLDEN YEARS:** Poignant tributes were paid across London to cultural icon David Bowie, following his death at the age of 69 – and none more so than at the Hammersmith Apollo, where the singer famously performed his final show as alter ego Ziggy Stardust. Ziggy played guitar for the last time at the Odeon, as it was then known, on July 3 1973, spelling the end of an era for one of Bowie's most famous guises. A fitting tribute, playing on the lyrics of the singer's 1977 hit 'Heroes', was displayed above the entrance to the venue last week. It was followed by a huge gathering in Brixton, Bowie's home town, where hundreds gathered to celebrate the artist's career. **SEE PAGES 7 & 16**

Main picture: Ben Weeks

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Appeal court next for traders' battle

BY JACK DIXON
jack@londonweeklynews.co.uk

TRADERS at Shepherd's Bush Market will continue their legal battle against the site's redevelopment in the Court of Appeal.

The Shepherd's Bush Market Tenants' Association, which is fighting plans to build more than 200 luxury flats next to the site, has announced that an appeal hearing will be held in March.

Transport for London sold the market to Orion Land & Leisure in 2014 but independent traders are concerned that more than 10 per cent of market businesses have shut up shop since then.

A government planning inspector had warned that the development would damage the retailing environment, but a recommendation to stop the build was overturned by the then Communities and Local Government secretary Eric Pickles.

The decision was upheld in the High Court last summer but traders will continue their legal challenge in the Court of Appeal this spring.

James Horada, chair of the



■ **TREASURED:** Shepherd's Bush Market.

tenants' association, said: "This scheme is removing our security and forcing additional costs and liability onto our businesses."

"Since the redevelopers acquired the market over 10 per cent of the market businesses have folded and left the market. "This scheme should be about protecting and cradling the businesses of Shepherd's Bush Market and preserving an exceptional community."

Law firm Leigh Day are taking the legal challenge to the Court of Appeal on behalf of the market traders. The hearing is scheduled to be held on March 2 and 3.

Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter said the High Court decision had been "disappointing" and that he was pleased to hear that traders were appealing to save "an essential part of the community in Shepherd's Bush".

Orion has previously declined to comment on the specifics of the case, but insists that the scheme will "retain the unique nature of the market, allowing it to maintain and grow its traditional strengths in fabric, fashions and food, whilst expanding to offer more crafts, cafes, flowers and food lines, attracting new shoppers and visitors."

One week left to help fire service chiefs decide on £6million savings

BY LWN REPOPTER

editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDONERS have until February 1 to share their views on how the capital's fire service can cope with millions of pounds of cutbacks.

The public consultation is designed to gather ideas to help the London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority make £6.4million of budget savings for 2016-17.

Members of the authority have already approved two proposals for consultation, both of which ensure no fire stations would be closed and no fire-fighters would be made compulsorily redundant.

The main difference between the two options centres around the 13 fire engines that have been out of service for two years as part of the brigade's strike contingency arrangements.

Option A is the proposal preferred by the majority of members of the authority. It recommends putting the 13 fire engines back into service but making savings by establishing alternate crewing at stations

with some special appliances. This option would see two fire rescue units, five aerial appliances and two operational support units being alternately crewed.

Option B is recommended by the Commissioner of London Fire Brigade. It recommends the permanent removal of the 13 fire engines and the reinvesting of some of the savings into increasing the number of staff available to crew fire rescue units.

The brigade has continued to meet its London-wide average attendance time target of six minutes for a first fire engine and eight minutes for a second while the 13 appliances have been out of service.

If the 13 fire engines were returned to service, it is believed that this would improve average London-wide attendance times by around four seconds for the first engine and by around 18 seconds for the second fire engine.

The 13 fire stations that had one of their two fire engines removed in August 2013 were: Chelsea, Ealing, Erith, Forest Hill, Holloway, Old Kent Road, Plaistow, Poplar, Romford, Shoreditch, Stratford,

Wandsworth and Willesden.

Chairman of London Fire and Emergency Planning Authority, Gareth Bacon said: "The consultation is a chance for Londoners to have their say on our budget proposals and how the authority can save £6.4million.

"If you want your voice heard I urge everyone to visit our website and tell us what they think."

Last year the number of fires was below 20,000 for the first time since records for Greater London began in 1966 and fire deaths have steadily declined since the 1980s. In 1987, there were 28.5 fire deaths per million residents compared to 3.4 per million in 2014.

For the first time ever, an online meeting – hosted at the website www.hounslow.gov.uk – allowing people to ask questions from home, will be held on Friday, January 22 starting at 12.30pm and ending at 1.30pm

If you can't make the online meeting, you can always submit your questions in advance and check back here at a later date to see the response. Email your questions to consultation@london-fire.gov.uk



■ HAVE YOUR SAY: London fire authority chief Gareth Bacon.

Please, give the dog a home

WHILE many people are giving up something for January – be it chocolate, alcohol or cake – one lonely dog at Battersea Dogs & Cats Home has given up love because of circumstance rather than choice.

One-year-old Milo is among the longest stay dogs at the Battersea centre, after he was brought to the charity when his owners found he could not be left alone without becoming severely stressed.

The young American Bulldog's love of people means he has developed a fear of being left alone, otherwise known as separation anxiety. When he is by himself panic sets in and he becomes distressed.

Staff at Battersea are doing everything they can to help the downhearted dog, and Milo can often be seen going for long walks around the park or with volunteers spending time in his kennel, trying to keep his spirits up.

Battersea is appealing for an active home that will teach Milo that being alone isn't scary.

Head of dog rehoming, Rob Young, said: "Milo will make an amazing pet for the right owners. He's a lovable rogue – a big strong boy that will need some training – but will be a loyal companion for life.

"Milo really is a cuddle monster with a fun personality and despite his size he'll still try to sit on your lap. If there's anyone out there that can help



■ BUNDLE OF JOY: Milo the American Bulldog is desperately in need of a home.

poor Milo we'd love to hear from you – you'll be rewarded with a loving and affectionate companion.

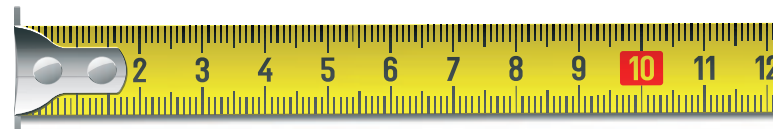
"Milo is a giant bundle of joy that is looking for active owners to give him all the training he needs. He could live

with older children and he needs a private garden because of his size and training requirements."

If you can help Milo contact Battersea on 0843 509 4444 or you can visit the centre website rehoming@battersea.org.uk

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Emma's lead role in battle to combat TB

BY LWN REPORTER

editorial@londonweeklynews.co.uk

LONDONERS are being urged to get tested for TB, which is more prevalent in London than any other capital in Western Europe.

London mayor Boris Johnson's TB ambassador, actress Emma Thompson, along with her son Tindy Agaba, visited a mobile screening unit which travels the capital diagnosing and treating TB and other infectious diseases.

The visit came as the National Institute for Health and Care Excellence published updated guidance to better treat and prevent TB.

In 2014 there were 2,572 TB cases reported in London and, whilst eight out of 10 TB cases in London are in people born abroad, anyone can contract TB. The mayor is working with bodies including Public Health England and University College London Hospitals to raise awareness of the disease, and encourage people to consult their GP if they have any symptoms.

Ms Thompson has a special interest in TB after Tindy was diagnosed and treated for the disease by UCLH doctors in 2011. Appointed the Mayor's TB ambassador in January 2015 to help raise awareness of the disease among Lon-



■ MESSAGE: Emma Thompson and son Tindy are raising awareness of TB.

doners and challenge the stigma associated with it, Ms Thompson met service users at the Whitechapel Mission homeless day centre last week as they underwent X-rays and received vaccines against flu and pneumonia.

The visit formed part of a project to develop a short film with Public Health England to raise awareness of TB amongst Londoners.

Mr Johnson said: "It's essential that Londoners know the symptoms of TB and where to go for help if we're to rid the capital of this debilitating disease. Whilst TB rates in London have dropped over the last three years, it is unacceptable that our great city still has some of the highest levels in Western

Europe. The Find & Treat service is making a real difference by diagnosing and treating hard-to-reach communities across the capital. Emma and Tindy are doing a great job raising awareness of this illness and I urge all Londoners to remember that anyone can become infected with TB and to get tested if they have any concerns."

Ms Thompson said: "Early diagnosis and treatment are vital in the fight against TB, a battle which I am deeply committed to after my son Tindy's experience of the disease. The Find & Treat service plays an invaluable role in reaching out to all sections of our community, providing support and raising awareness of how important it is to get tested, get treated and get cured. It is already making a huge difference, screening thousands of people and helping them return to health. The scale of TB in such a developed, world-class city as London is truly alarming and I will continue to work with the Mayor to keep this disease at the top of the health agenda."

Operating across London since 2005, the Find & Treat service works alongside a network of over 200 front line health and social care services to tackle TB in socially vulnerable groups such as the homeless, vulnerable migrants or those with drug and alcohol problems, who make up 10 per cent of London's TB cases. Early diagnosis and treatment are vital in the fight against TB and the Find & Treat team screens almost 10,000 high-risk Londoners each year in their mobile units, immediately referring those who need further care.

The team, which includes former TB patients who work as peer advocates, specialist nurses, social and outreach workers, radiographers and technicians, supports TB services in London and beyond to manage over 300 of the most socially complex cases every year. By addressing the lifestyle factors that put people at increased risk of TB, 84 per cent of the patients found by the Find & Treat vans have successfully completed treatment and many have broken cycles of addiction and homelessness.

Dr Alistair Story, Clinical Lead for the Find & Treat service at UCLH said: "The Mobile Health Unit regularly visits the Whitechapel Mission to provide on-the-spot TB checks and other essential care as part of our routine services for homeless people across London. TB is an infectious airborne disease that remains a very real threat to public health in London and we work hard to make sure that those most at risk can get diagnosed early and cured."

de Rothschild, took place in 1857.

The latest cash handout supports the overhaul of the heritage buildings and parklands as part of the £51million programme to restore Gunnersbury Park and Museum, which is on the border of Hounslow and Ealing boroughs.

The multi-million pound restoration works have been under way since November last year.

Councillor Steve Curran, leader of

Hounslow council, said: "We're extremely grateful for the Country Houses Foundation's award to the Large Mansion project. It's through the help of charitable foundations, heritage organisations and the commitment of volunteers and local supporters that Gunnersbury will be restored and become, once again, a major heritage and recreation site.

"I'm sure that all supporters of the

park will join me in thanking the Country Houses Foundation for this grant."

Gunnersbury was the first Rothschild country residence in England, later followed by the grand houses in Buckinghamshire and Hertfordshire.

The drawing room, which features three large windows opening out onto the south lawns, retains its original architectural features, including the monogram of Nathan Mayer Roth-

Photographs celebrate dancer's art

WORLD-RENOWNED dance photographer Rick Guest and long-time collaborator Olivia Pomp once again attempt to explore the spirit and physicality that underpins a dancer's art.

The exhibition entitled What Lies Beneath will appear at the Hospital Club Gallery in Covent Garden from Friday, January 22 to 31.

The dancers appear in what they wear for their daily ballet practice, with the clothes performing various functions, from the necessary preservation of heat to a small piece of self-expression in an otherwise uniform ensemble act.

Rick and Olivia have had the pleasure of working with an astounding array of dancers and companies, including Edward Watson, Tamara Rojo, Steven McRae, Marianela Nuñez, Alban Lendorf, Zenaida Yanowsky and Melissa Hamilton, as well as dancers from the English National Ballet, the Royal Ballet, The Dresden Semperoper, Wayne McGregor Random Dance, the Richard Alston Company and the Royal Danish Ballet.

Rick is an award-winning photographer who has worked on a diverse array of projects and advertising campaigns for clients such as Nike, BMW, Adidas, Hugo Boss, Ferrari and the London Olympics. His collaborator Olivia is a highly experienced international stylist and fashion editor. Born in Germany, Olivia studied languages and the art of couture tailoring in Munich.

Olivia and Rick have a unique partnership that has developed over many years of collaboration on international commissions. Their last dance project culminated in the exhibition Now Is All There Is!, also held at the Hospital Club Gallery.

All art pieces are in a limited edition of six and will be for sale. The exhibition will have an accompanying book featuring many more images from the series, with an essay by Sarah Crompton, who is one of Britain's most respected writers and broadcasters.

The exhibition will be housed at the Hospital Club, which is a unique hub in the heart of London offering the creative community the environment and facilities to create, connect and collaborate. As part of London's creative community and with more than seven floors at 24 Endell Street, it is a real-world club with gallery, studios, screening room and beautiful spaces.

It is also an on-online community for the creative industries, set up to inspire, entertain, support and nurture creative talent.

For more information visit the website thehospitalclub.com



■ GRIPPING DRAMA: Two examples of the creative photography of Rick Guest, made in collaboration with Olivia Pomp.



£75,000 funding boost for Gunnersbury Park restoration project

MAJOR restoration works at famous Gunnersbury Park have received a new funding boost.

£75,000 has been pledged by the Country Houses Foundation to help pay for repairs, conservation and renovation of the drawing room in the mansion, once used by the Rothschild family to entertain guests and where the wedding of Leonora de Rothschild, eldest daughter of Lionel and Charlotte

schild, founder of the British branch of the Rothschilds, and golden carrier pigeons, a reminder of the Rothschild messaging system established across Europe.

Councillor Julian Bell, leader of Ealing council, said: "It is fantastic news that we have secured funding from the Country Houses Foundation to help renovate the large mansion's drawing room."

Calls for a capital show for Bowie

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

CALLS are growing for a star-studded London memorial concert in tribute to David Bowie, the capital's much-mourned son and rock hero.

As London Mayor Boris Johnson considers demands for a sculpture in honour of Bowie to be erected as the next Fourth Plinth in Trafalgar Square, the music world, which has been shattered by the death of the iconic visionary, is calling for a big gig to honour him in his home town.

Bowie's longtime friend and producer Tony Visconti is organising a memorial concert on March 31 at Carnegie Hall in New York, where the rock legend lived in recent years, but fans want a similar show in London too, where his loss is being felt as deeply as Liverpool's after the death of John Lennon.

Bowie will also be honoured in a special tribute that is being organised as part of the Brit Awards at the O2 on February 24 and hopes are rising that it will be followed by an all-star memorial show at either that venue, The Royal Albert Hall or the Academy in his birthplace of Brixton – where roads had to be closed after 5,000 fans held an impromptu vigil on the night of the announcement of his death last week.



■ **GONE BUT NOT FORGOTTEN:** David Bowie's legions of fans are demanding a memorial concert be staged in London to honour the music icon.

Rock stars including his friends Sir Paul McCartney, Sir Elton John, The Rolling Stones, Iggy Pop and Brian Eno could be invited to stage a London tribute on similar lines to the all-star concert for George Harrison which was mounted at the Albert Hall in 2002. In a nod to Bowie's pioneering embrace of the internet, such a show could be screened live online all around the world.

All across London plans are underway for a variety of tributes to the artist who inspired generations.

In Beckenham, where Bowie grew up, residents and the council are aiming to raise £120,000 to restore the bandstand at a local recreation ground where Bowie staged a gig on the same

weekend as the Woodstock Festival.

In Brixton, the council is looking at ways to legally protect the street portrait inspired by the cover of his *Aladdin Sane* album that has become a place of pilgrimage for tens of thousands of Bowie fans. James Cochran, the artist who painted the mural in 2013, said he hoped that it would become a permanent memorial.

"From the day I painted it, it was embraced by the local community. It has been well-respected for the past three years and I hope it will remain that way," said Mr Cochran.

In Soho, fans want special status awarded to Heddon Street, the site of the cover of Bowie's *Ziggy Stardust* album, and film-maker and music ac-

tivist Henry Scott-Irvine, creator of the Save Tin Pan Alley campaign, is backing calls for some sort of monument to be erected in Denmark Street, where Bowie hung out with his friend Marc Bolan before he and the T Rex idol became stars.

"Denmark Street was where David worked at Southern Music Publishing originally, I believe, in 1965," said Mr Scott-Irvine.

"David had an American Second World War ambulance that he used to park in the street until the traffic wardens arrived at dawn. The popular story is that he slept in this and drove it to gigs."

"He did indeed hang out at the Giocconda Café there when he was in the band Lower Third and then known as Davie Jones."

There have also been calls and online petitions for David Bowie to be honoured with a commemorative stone at Poet's Corner in Westminster Abbey, for the planet Mars to be renamed the planet Bowie and for the singer to be the face of a new £20 bank note.

Belgian astronomers have looked to the stars to find a fitting way to pay tribute to Bowie, dedicating a constellation to the self-proclaimed Starman. The constellation boasts seven stars that, when connected, form the iconic lightning bolt seen on the cover of Bowie's *Aladdin Sane*.

The interstellar tribute, which appro-

riately features celestial bodies in the vicinity of Mars, was engineered by Belgium's MIRA Public Observatory and the radio station Studio Brussels.

Friends of Bowie said that although they have not yet heard of any plans for a big London tribute concert, they would not be surprised if his pals in the music business, like Bowie's famed promoter Harvey Goldsmith, do not look to stage one.

London music publisher David Stark said: "I'm sure that a big gig is already being discussed by parties close to Bowie. It's just a question of whether to do it in Brixton or at the O2 for a Led Zeppelin style mega-gig. I suspect the latter with a live feed to Brixton and the world, featuring Macca, Mick Jagger, Elton, Rod, Queen, Peter Gabriel, Brian Eno, Kate Bush, Iggy, Duran, Kraftwerk, Morrissey, George Michael, and Boy George."

"Whether it's called *Bonding for Bowie* or *Sound & Vision – A Tribute to David Bowie*, whatever, it will happen and it will be the event of the year."

David Bowie's last album, *Blackstar*, released just days before his death from cancer at the age of 69, tops this week's official album charts with many of other his other albums filling the top slots on Apple iTunes and other download charts.

■ **Half Moon pays tribute to the Starman, Capital Nights, Page 16**

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LONDON WIDE

Heathrow's supersonic anniversary

BY LWN REPORTER
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BETWEEN 1976 and 2003, it flew the rich and famous around the planet at supersonic speeds.

Concorde – a joint project between British and French engineers and politicians – became an icon of aerospace design and technological achievement.

And its spiritual home was Heathrow airport.

Today, January 21, is the 40th anniversary of the first commercial flights of Concorde. On this day in 1976 British Airways flew their Concorde from Heathrow to Bahrain, and Air France flew from Paris to Rio.

For its first few years, Concorde operated at a loss. The British Government, which financed the British side of the project, took 80 per cent of Concorde's revenue. It was discovered in the early 1980s that public perception of Concorde was that it cost more to fly on it

than it actually did. So the prices were put up to what people thought they were, and with oil prices reducing, Concorde began making money.

In 1984, financial ownership of the aircraft was passed from the government to British Airways who operated the planes at a profit. It is rumoured that part of the reason for the famous aircraft being retired in 2003 was that, while they were grounded, British Airways and Air France realised they made more money out of the passengers who would have flown on Concorde by encouraging them to fly first class on their standard jet airliners.

Forty years ago, on the eve of those inaugural commercial flights, the tension was rising.

By the evening of Tuesday, January 20, 1976 preparations were complete and everything was covered, from aircraft certification and engineering, crew training and operational planning, passenger services and airport facilities.

And, of course, co-ordination



■ **MAKING HISTORY:** The first commercial flight of Concorde took off from Heathrow on Wednesday, January 21, 1976.

with Paris had been intense to ensure that British Airways' and Air France's Concorde would take-off at precisely the same time the following morning. And the weather was looking good, fine conditions being forecast at Heathrow and in Paris.

By mid-morning next day, as Captain Norman Todd, Captain Brian Calvert and Senior Flight Engineer John Lidiard completed their pre-flight preparation they were acutely aware that every member of staff's efforts and energies were focussed on just one thing – a trouble-free and on-time departure to inaugurate the world's first supersonic scheduled passenger service.

It all went well. Aviation history was made at 11.40am on Wednesday, January 21.

Concorde was jointly developed and produced by Aérospatiale and the British Aircraft Corporation (BAC) under an Anglo-French treaty.

Concorde's name reflects the development agreement between the United Kingdom and France. A total of 20 aircraft were built in France and the United Kingdom; six of these were prototypes and development aircraft.

Seven each were delivered to Air France and British Airways. With only 20 aircraft built, the development of Con-

corde was a substantial economic loss; Air France and British Airways received hefty government subsidies to buy them.

Among other destinations, Concorde flew regular transatlantic flights from Heathrow and Paris Charles de Gaulle Airport to New York-JFK, Washington Dulles and Barbados; it flew these routes in less than half the time of other airliners. Over time the aircraft became profitable when it found a customer base willing to pay for flights on what was for most of its career the fastest commercial aircraft in the world. The aircraft is regarded by many as an aviation icon and an engineering marvel.

Concorde was retired in 2003 due to a general downturn in the commercial aviation industry after the type's only crash in 2000, the September 11 terrorist attacks in 2001, and a decision by Airbus, the successor firm of Aérospatiale and BAC, to discontinue maintenance support.

The US Congress banned

Concorde landings in America, mainly due to citizen protest over sonic booms, preventing launch on the coveted North Atlantic routes. The US Secretary of Transportation, William Coleman, gave permission for Concorde services to Washington Dulles International Airport, and Air France and British Airways simultaneously began services to Dulles on May 24, 1976.

When the US ban on JFK Concorde operations was lifted in February 1977, New York banned Concorde locally. The ban came to an end on October 17, 1977 when the Supreme Court of the United States declined to overturn a lower court's ruling.

In spite of complaints about noise, the noise report noted that Air Force One, at the time a Boeing VC-137, was louder than Concorde at subsonic speeds and during takeoff and landing.

Scheduled service from Paris and London to New York's John F. Kennedy Airport began on November 22, 1977.

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Tower block plans on the rise

A SPATE of planning applications for high-rise blocks in west London has alarmed campaigners.

The latest proposal is a 38-storey apartment block earmarked by developers for Paddington Green – a long way from the towering developments that dominate the skyline in the City, Docklands and South Bank.

The application, part of the West End Green scheme in Edgware Road, was submitted to Westminster council by developers Berkeley in December.

It follows proposals for the 72-storey "Paddington Pole"

from the developers and architects behind The Shard.

Campaigners fear this will open the floodgates to high-rise development in areas so far spared what has been dubbed "the march of the mega-towers". There is also planning consent for a 42-level residential building, known as the Cucumber, at Paddington's Merchant Square development.

The Skyline Campaign wants a moratorium on tower building in London. The organisation's founder, Barbara Weiss, said boroughs were waking up to how much money they could make from such developments. But residents were

"up in arms" because they felt it was a totally undemocratic way of transforming their neighbourhoods.

Angus Michie, divisional chairman of Berkeley St Edward, said he thought most people would be delighted to see the West End Green site being developed.

He said: "It's been derelict and blighted the area for a long time. It already has planning consent for a tall building and this allows us to increase the amount of public space at ground level by 30 per cent."

There were 20 applications for towers of at least 20 storeys in west London last year.

LONDON VOICES

LWN

WHEN I took on the role of Chairman of the Westway Trust I really had no idea what I was signing up for. My early engagement with the Trust's work quickly convinced me that some really great work was happening locally; education programmes, work to help local people learn new skills and find jobs, support for parents and a world class programme of sporting and health initiatives – all these were what persuaded me to take up this role just four months ago.

I must confess however, to having been naive as to the challenges of the role and to what is actually involved in governing a charity as unusual and ambitious as the



UNDER THE WESTWAY

Westway Trust Chair, Alan Brown, reflects on his first few months with the Trust

Westway Trust. At our AGM at an early point in my term I came face to face with frustration and sadness in some parts of the community. Most of all what was impressed upon me that evening, and in the weeks that followed, is the passion that exists locally for this very special part of London. There are so many people wanting to be involved in the Westway estate's future who are frustrated by the lack of opportunity they've been given to shape the place they care so strongly about.

I've met quite a number of our member organisations and am learning about the diversity of their causes and programmes and how the Trust can best help them. I spent a fascinating evening with

the staff, volunteers and customers of our PopUp Crèche service. The impact of this quiet initiative on the lives of local people, in terms of their future emotional and economic wellbeing, again renewed my belief in the good work that goes on, often unnoticed.

One of my priorities has been to get to know some of the leading members of the Westway 23 movement and to listen very carefully to their needs and aspirations. I'm grateful to their Chair, Niles Hailstones, who has given me a lot of his time over the last two months. I have learnt a lot from our meetings and from our recent walk together around the Westway estate. I've given Niles and his colleagues my personal

commitment to do what I can to represent their views with fellow trustees, and to work with them to ensure the plans coming forward for the future of the estate are relevant, valued and vibrant.

I've also greatly valued the feedback and advice of local ward councillors in Golborne, Colville and St Helen's who've helped me navigate some of the intricate and challenging history of the Trust's evolution over the last 40 years, as well as the constructive way in which they shared with me the concerns and wishes of local people for the Westway estate and the wider community.

The one thing that has been really reassuring for me is that the guiding principles of Westway

Trust's future plans are largely undisputed: our commitment to a healthy community, to a place of economic vibrancy and opportunity, to a cleaner greener place, and to celebrating the area's heritage. Across our local communities we have seen significant support for this approach. If our future work can build on the energy and defiant spirit of the past, then we will be well on our way.

In closing may I thank the local person who left a parrot feather for me at the offices of the Trust in my early weeks, which they said was from the very parrot in the Portobello restaurant I loved in my youth. L'Artiste Assouffe – that gesture made me feel very welcomed. Thank you.

Rough sleepers in peril in cold snap

THE Mayor of London has partnered with St Mungo's the homeless charity to open an emergency severe weather shelter after temperatures plummeted across the capital this week.

The shelter opened in Harrow on the evening of Thursday, January 14, to help get vulnerable rough sleepers off the streets – and will stay open during the freezing weather to help anyone sleeping rough across London in what can be life-threatening temperatures.

As well as a warm bed to stay in, people will be offered a hot shower, clean clothes and hot food, whilst staff work to link them into services to find them more permanent accommodation that will stop them returning to the streets.

This pan-London severe weather provision forms part of the mayor's wider work to tackle rough sleeping in the capital, where he annually invests £9million to run services, which include outreach, accommodation and help to support homeless people into a permanent home – as well as jobs and skills training.

Mr Johnson has appointed homeless charities St Mungo's and Thames Reach to take a number of these essential services forward over the next three years with a programme of work that helps rough sleepers off the streets, including specialist services for non-UK nationals sleeping rough – a group that has significantly increased in recent years.

Through the success of the mayor's flagship No Second Night Out scheme, the majority of people only spend one night sleeping on the streets.

Mr Johnson said: "With the arrival of freezing temperatures in the capital, it's more important than ever that we ensure the most vulnerable people in the city are not sleeping rough.

"No one should ever have to call the streets their home and by prioritising my funding for

FROM THE MAYOR'S OFFICE



key services and working with partners such as St Mungo's and Thames Reach we are doing everything possible to turn around the lives of some of our most entrenched rough sleepers and support them into long term accommodation, health care, skills and employment."

The Severe Weather Emergency Shelter, run by St Mungo's, will be in place throughout the winter whenever three consecutive nights of freezing temperatures are predicted.

The Mayor's London Street Rescue outreach team, run by Thames Reach, was busy finding and helping London's homeless people survive the freezing cold weather of the past few days – and a number of London boroughs and faith-based services said that they would also provide emergency accommodation to help vulnerable local people during winter months. Longer term, St Mungo's will continue to deliver the mayor's important CHAIN database that monitors the number of people sleeping rough, plus Clearing House, and will commence running the mayor's Reconnections service and Tenancy Sustainment Team North (TST) in April.

Howard Sinclair, St Mungo's chief executive, explained: "Rough sleeping is harmful and dangerous but when temperatures drop, people's lives are even more at risk. Health problems connected to exposure to the cold can exacerbate people's al-

ready poor physical and mental health. We will be working day and night while it's freezing to help as many people into shelter as soon as possible.

"Our partnership with the Greater London Authority will see us expand our work across the capital and support more people as they move away from homelessness and on with their lives.

"I would urge people concerned about someone rough sleeping to contact the national referral service StreetLink on 0300 500 0914 to help connect them with their local service."

Thames Reach will take over responsibility for the mayor's TST South service which supports former rough sleepers who have been housed but face potentially losing their tenancy without support to live independently.

They will also provide outreach for the mayor's London Street Rescue service in 18 London boroughs, putting out outreach teams 365 nights of the year to help people sleeping rough get off the streets.

Jeremy Swain, chief executive of Thames Reach said: "The importance of this cold weather initiative cannot be understated. This is an opportunity to help some of London's most vulnerable people escape the freezing weather, come inside and from there to be given the long-term support that will mean they do not need to return to sleeping rough. When the temperature plummets there is a real possibility of people dying on the street and I would urge Londoners to contact us if they are concerned about someone sleeping rough over this period."

The mayor recently successfully secured £30million in a joint fund with the Government for more hostel accommodation, including specialist accommodation for younger people at risk of sleeping rough and homeless veterans. The mayor remains committed to working with government, local authorities and the voluntary sector to help ensure no one has to sleep rough on the capital's streets.

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Pupils learn lessons from death camp

BY GEOFF BAKER

geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

AS London prepares to mark Holocaust Memorial Day on January 27, students from schools in Kensington, Chelsea and Hammersmith are making arrangements to visit the darkest site in human history and learn lessons from the horror of Auschwitz.

Pupils from the British section of the Lycee Francais on Cromwell Road, the Sacred Heart High School in Hammersmith and the London Oratory School in Chelsea will join 200 other students from schools across the South East on a visit to the death camp in Poland on February 4.

The visit is being organised by the Holocaust Educational Trust as part of its Lessons from Auschwitz project, which aims to increase knowledge and understanding of the Holocaust and to signal what



■ **DARK HISTORY:** West London students will visit Auschwitz.

can happen if prejudice and racism become acceptable.

Since 1999, the project for post-16 students and teachers has taken over 27,000 students and teachers from across the UK to Auschwitz-Birkenau.

A spokesman for the Trust said: "During the visit students are first taken to Oswiecim, the town where the Auschwitz death and concentration camps were located and where the local Jewish community lived prior to the start of the Second World War.

"The groups are then shown several barracks at Auschwitz I – registration documents of inmates, piles of hair, shoes, clothes and other items seized from the prisoners as they entered the camps.

"Students are then taken the short distance to Birkenau. This is the site that most people associate with the word Auschwitz and where the vast majority of victims were murdered.

"The remnants of barracks, crematoria and gas chambers are in stark contrast to Auschwitz I and many people feel this has a greater impact on them. The tour of Birkenau culminates in a memorable ceremony held next to the destroyed crematoria II.

"The ceremony includes readings, a moment of reflection and ends with all participants lighting memorial candles and placing them around the remains of the crematoria."

Nazi Germany built the Auschwitz death camp in 1940 and a year later began murdering prisoners there.

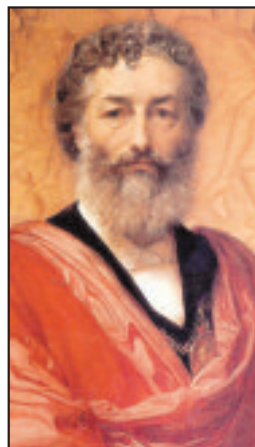
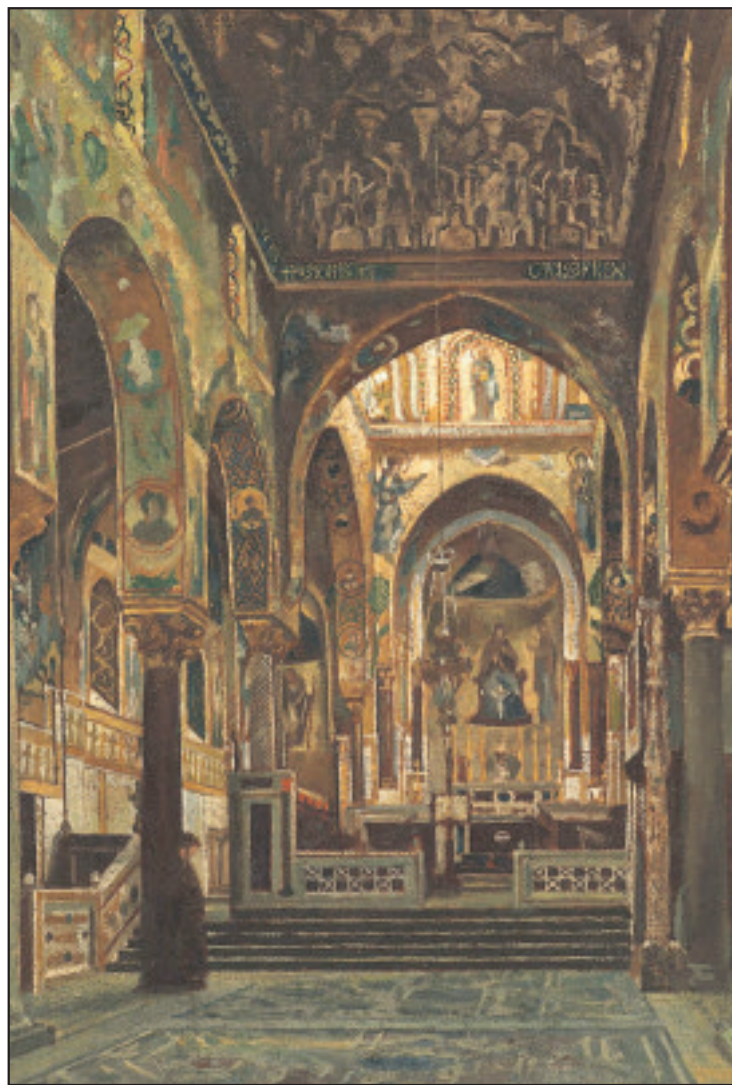
At least 1.1 million prisoners died at Auschwitz, around 90 per cent of them Jewish.

One in six of the at least 6 million Jews murdered by the Nazis were killed in the Auschwitz gas chambers.

Others who were put to death at the camp included 150,000 Poles, 23,000 Romani, 15,000 Russian prisoners of war, along with many Jehovah's Witnesses and homosexuals.

Many of those not killed in the gas chambers died of starvation, forced labour, infectious diseases, individual executions, and medical experiments. The camp was staffed by 7,000 members of the German SS, of whom only 12 per cent of whom were later convicted of war crimes.

The camp was liberated by Russian troops on January 27, 1945, the day now commemorated as the international Holocaust Memorial Day.



■ **APPEALING:** Leighton House Museum, inset above, has now raised the necessary funds to acquire the artist's painting, *Interior of the Capella Palatina*, pictured top.

Race to claim famous work by Leighton

KENSINGTON'S Leighton House Museum has successfully completed its fundraising campaign to acquire *Interior of the Cappella Palatina*, a previously untraced painting by Frederic, Lord Leighton.

Probably painted in the 1870s, the subject is the interior of the Cappella Palatina in Palermo, Sicily. It was built in the first half of the 12th century by the Norman king, Roger II, and is famous for the luminous gold Byzantine mosaics that line its walls.

Leighton was very interested in architecture generally, but he seems to have been particularly anxious to accurately record the interior of this chapel. Although the study beautifully captures its atmosphere, with the play of light across the mosaics illuminating the east end of the chapel, Leighton took pains to faithfully represent all the architectural elements of the building and its decoration – even including a single figure standing on the left against a column to give a sense of scale.

Leighton's *Arab Hall* was based on another 12th century interior at a palace called La Zisa, also at Palermo. This painting demonstrates how captivated he was by these interiors and how closely they inspired his own Arab Hall.

This is why the Holland Park museum's curators were so keen to add this picture to the permanent collection; to make the connection between Leighton's travels, his skills as a painter and the influences that were brought to bear on the design and construction of his extraordinary house.

This picture makes these connections perfectly and will greatly enhance future visitors' enjoyment of the house.

The total cost of the painting is £40,000 and museum bosses needed the public's help to raise £10,000 towards this total. They were delighted to announce last week that they had reached their target.

The museum is Leighton's former home. The only purpose-built studio-house open to the public in the United Kingdom, it is one of the most remarkable buildings of the 19th century, containing a fascinating collection of paintings and sculpture by Leighton and his contemporaries.

Bleak outlook for homebuyers as London planning approvals slow down

THERE has been a sharp decline in the number of new homes winning planning approval in London – raising fears that the capital's housing crisis is getting worse.

London boroughs' planning teams approved 5,740 new homes in the third quarter of last year, down from 8,063 in the second quarter and 11,865 in the first, according to data compiled by estate agents Stirling Ackroyd and published by *The Guardian* newspaper.

Approvals so far recorded for 2015 – of 25,668 – fall far short of the 42,000 annual figure needed to meet government housing targets for the capital.

Fewer than 70 per cent of applications for new homes were given approval between July and September

across London's 32 boroughs, compared with 76 per cent of homes approved in the previous quarter. But even if all 8,280 applications in the third quarter had been granted, London would still be falling short of the necessary levels.

South London boroughs outpaced the rest, with Southwark leading the way with 912 home approvals, followed by Croydon and Lambeth. These three boroughs accounted for 41 per cent of all planning consents in the city.

In west London, Hammersmith and Fulham managed 368 approvals, according to the statistics.

Barking and Dagenham was the worst borough for planning approvals, granting just seven in the third quarter. Kensington and Chelsea

granted permission for only eight new homes and the east London borough of Havering – which includes Romford, Hornchurch and Rainham – was the third worst, with 20.

Andrew Bridges, managing director of Stirling Ackroyd, told *The Guardian*: "Approvals simply aren't stacking up. No, no, no is being heard far too often and it can't continue.

"A sustainable and realistic approach is needed in order to make sure new homes are being built – and London's housing crisis tackled by the horns."

The government has unveiled a series of measures to tackle the UK's housing crisis, including a recent pledge to create 13,000 homes in southern England – the largest housing project led by central government

since the redevelopment of Docklands in east London in the 1980s.

While housebuilding has picked up across the UK since the slump hit during the financial crisis, the number of houses being built remains below its peak in 2007 and well short of the 250,000 new homes a year experts say are needed.

There was a pick-up in homes started and completed across London last summer, but both failed to make significant progress, Stirling Ackroyd said.

The figures showed construction on 5,680 new homes started in the third quarter, up 14 per cent on the previous three months. At the same time, 6,430 new homes were completed, the highest number in 2015 so far.



■ **SLUMP:** New home approvals are slowing in London.

Fear of prosecution tempers drive for more armed police

BY GEOFF BAKER
geoff@londonweeklynews.co.uk

THE Met's plan to put another 600 armed police on the streets is being stymied by fears among rank and file officers that they could be arrested if they shoot to kill in the line of duty.

Officers fear volunteering for the armed units because of concerns that in the event of a shooting they could end up under suspension and long investigation by the Independent Police Complaints Commission – which has had one officer under inquiry for 11 years.

Calls are now growing for the Government to pull the teeth of the police watchdog so that officers forced to use their weapons can shoot without the worry that they could face prosecution on suspicion of murder.

As Met Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe has announced plans to increase the number of armed officers to 2,800 to tackle the terrorism threat, police sources have revealed a reluctance to volunteer to carry a gun because of fears of an over-zealous IPCC.

"A lot of officers are saying 'is it worth carrying a gun if I run the risk of being arrested?'" said a highly-placed source.

The officers' fears have been echoed by their chief. Sir Bernard is so concerned about the prosecution threat to police just doing their job that he has asked the Prime Minister to act to curb IPCC powers.

Sir Bernard said: "I raised with him my growing concern that when our firearms officers discharge their weapons – they don't always hit and they don't always kill someone but it's a risk – how do they feel when they are under inquiry for two, three years. We've had one under inquiry for 11 years.

"My point was these are the few people on behalf of society who we give a firearm to – there's only about 3,000 or so in the country. On our behalf, they go forward and they face a gunperson with a gun in their hand because they are the only people who can do it.

"And when they discharge their weapon, the whole world seems to come down on them and says why did you do that? They're all volunteers – I pay them no more. They take all that responsibility and in a fraction of a second, they have to make a very difficult decision.

"And I don't want anything praying on their mind when they have to make that decision. I want more volunteers to come forward. So I have been concerned by how the law treats them."

Sir Bernard voiced his concern in the wake of alarm at Scotland Yard when a police marksman was arrested last month in an IPCC investigation after a suspect who was allegedly part of a plot to spring a gangster from crown court was shot dead at Wood Green.

Following the arrest, IPCC commissioner Cindy Butts said: "There was evidence to indicate that a potential criminal offence may have been committed by the officer in his use of lethal force. We therefore made the decision to begin a criminal homicide investigation."

Although the Government has moved a detachment of the SAS to



■ **SAFE AND SECURE:** More armed police officers are being trained in preparation for a frontline role on the streets of London.

London from their Hereford HQ and has put the elite and highly-secretive Special Reconnaissance Unit on the streets of the capital to ferret out Islamist suspects, it is the officers of the Met who will be in the front line in the event of an increasingly-likely terror attack.

"My firearms officers are our heroes – we expect them to run towards a terrorist attack and take action to confront

and stop that threat," said Sir Bernard, who is doubling the number of armed response vehicles patrolling London.

Sir Bernard added: "It is my job to make sure that the Met has plans in place to keep the people of London as safe as they can be. The tragic attacks in Paris reinforced the vital role that firearms officers would be called upon to play on behalf of all of us, to run forward and confront the deadly threat that



■ **LEGAL CONCERNS:** Met Police Commissioner Sir Bernard Hogan-Howe.

such attackers would pose. Whilst I sincerely hope it is something that never happens on our streets, it is only right that the Met are as ready as can be.

"In the days following Paris I asked my firearms team to increase the number of armed response vehicles available on our streets, which we did. Now I have decided that we take the steps to increase these numbers on a permanent basis.

"To do so, the Met will now start putting plans in place to raise the number of armed officers that we have by 600. This increase will more than double the number of armed response vehicles on our streets and grow a highly trained specialist part of our capability. This is because we know that the threat we currently face is likely to be a spontaneous attack that requires a fast response to deal with it.

"This increase has started already and every day we are getting stronger. It will be an expensive option, but is vital to keeping us safe."

However, the addition of 600 more armed officers still leaves the cuts-ridden Met with 150 fewer gun cops than it had five years ago.

Last year the Met's Police Federation warned: "We have seen the firearms capability of the Metropolitan Police reduced by over 750 officers in the past four years."

Although many officers are expected to now volunteer to be armed, they face weeks of training before they can carry a gun.

Before a police officer can apply to join the firearms unit, they are required to have completed their two-year probationary period. After being screened for security clearance and undergoing various interviews, they are invited to attend the National Police Firearms Training Centre at Gravesend, Kent.

At the centre, the would-be armed officers undergo one week of intensive training on the Glock 17 pistol, Heckler & Koch MP5 semi automatic carbine, Heckler & Koch L104A1 baton gun and the X26 Taser.

This is followed by training on the legal regulations regarding the police use of firearms and rules of engagement, a further six weeks of training is focused solely on armed response vehicles, with an emphasis on driving techniques, high speed pursuit methods and safely executing controlled crashes.

Authorised Firearms Officers [AFOs] applying to become Specialist Firearms Officers [SFOs], are required to attend an eight-week training course at the National Police Firearms Training Centre.

The main role of a Specialist Firearms Officer is to intervene in situations that are beyond the control of AFOs, such as building sieges involving a hostage situation. Potential SFOs are extensively trained in the use of specialist firearms, method of entry techniques and abseiling 'fast rope' skills.

They are also trained in safe entry into aircraft and boats. Training also includes the use of tear gas and stun grenades, safe handling of hostages and rescue techniques, computer-simulated war games of potential threats such as a major evacuation or terrorist attack, and training in the use of protective clothing against chemical, biological and nuclear attack.

'Lost' pensions worth billions

ONE in five Londoners has lost track of their pension pots which are worth a total of more than £86 billion, new research has revealed.

Mayfair-based Perrys Chartered Accountants say that with 21 per cent of working Londoners losing track of pensions and 12 per cent not even being able to locate the relevant paperwork, people should make a resolution to find their missing funds.

Perrys claim there are an estimated 1.3 million people in the capital who have lost pensions and a further 750,000 who have misplaced their paperwork. They say the average pension pot is currently worth around £43,000 at retirement.

Stewart Pope, chief executive at Perrys, said: "Tracing a lost pension certainly isn't a lost cause. There are a number of things an individual can do in order to find out if they have a pension.

"If they believe their pension was through the NHS, the civil service, teaching or armed forces then they should contact the pension provider directly. Alternatively they can trace a pension using the Department for Works & Pensions' free online pension tracing facility. They will need to know which employer they believe they held a pension with along with employment dates."

The free pension tracing service can be found at www.gov.uk/find-a-lost-pension

Buying bullion just got easier

LONDON'S first one-stop shop for people who want to buy gold bullion is opening its doors in Mayfair, it was reported last week.

The venture offers investors the chance to buy coins and bars and put them straight into a safety deposit box – all on the same premises.

Broker Sharps Pixley will be selling gold bars costing from about £35 for 1g to £300,000 for a hefty gold block weighing 11.3kg (400 ounces) at its new showroom on St James's Street.

"London is considered by many as the global epicentre for gold trading at the professional level but in spite of this, physical metal is often not readily accessible to everyday investors," the firm said.

The *Guardian* reported that the showroom "will have some gold bars on display in public areas, but customers who want to view the really big bricks will be invited into a private consultation room".

Anti-money-laundering rules mean anyone spending more than £5,000 in one visit will need to provide photo ID and proof of address. Security systems at the site have taken almost a year to install and include facial recognition technology and anti-theft smoke screens.

BY GEOFF BAKER

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THE arts world, MPs and millions of Harry Potter fans are mourning the loss of one of the most-loved and acclaimed stars of stage and screen.

West London actor-director Alan Rickman died from cancer last week aged just 69.

Tributes to the acting giant, who was born in Acton and lived in Holland Park, have flooded in from all over the world, honouring "the magnificent actor and wonderful man" who enchanted record-breaking movie audiences as the sinister Severus Snape, the potions professor in the Harry Potter blockbusters.

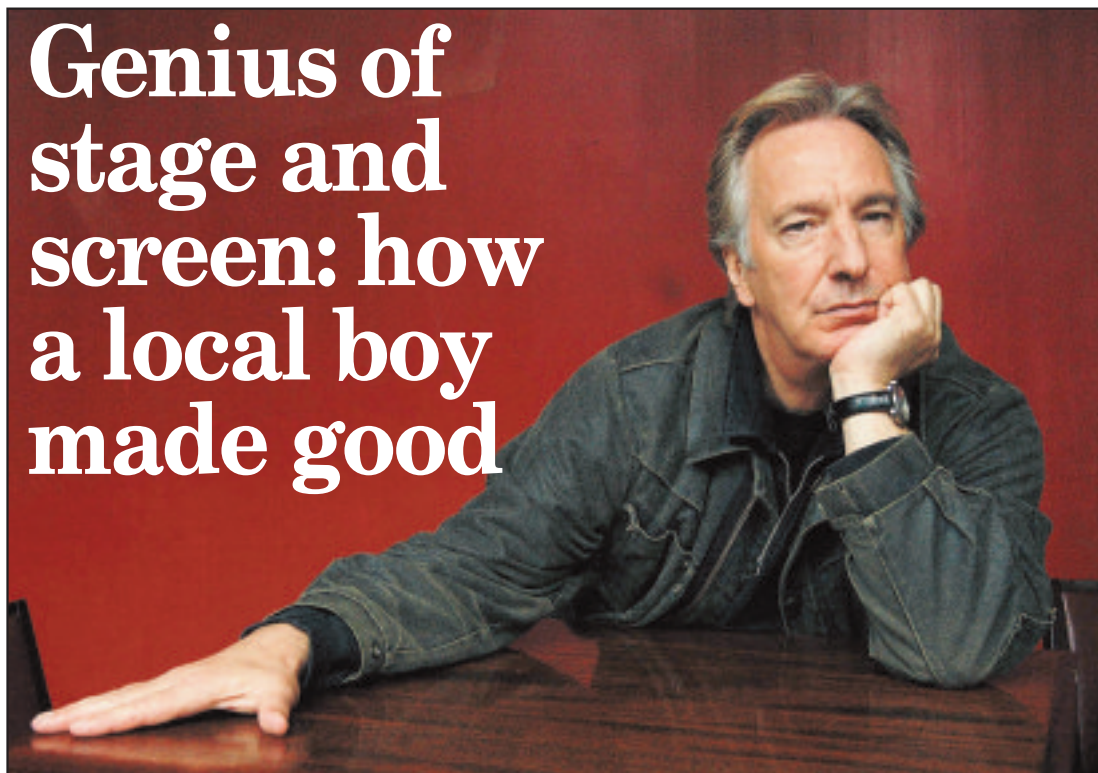
The sad death of the hugely-popular Hollywood star, who was often seen shopping and dining around Notting Hill, has broken the hearts of the great and the ordinary alike.

The tributes were led by Harry Potter fans, who left flowers and heartfelt messages at Platform Nine & Three Quarters, the magic platform at Kings Cross station for the Hogwarts Express.

Harry Potter himself, actor Daniel Radcliffe, led the tributes; saying: "Alan Rickman is undoubtedly one of the greatest actors I will ever work with. He is also one of the most loyal and most supportive people I've ever met in the film industry."

"Working with him at such a formative age was incredibly important and I will carry the lessons he taught me for the rest of

Genius of stage and screen: how a local boy made good



■ **LOCAL HERO:** Actor Alan Rickman, who lived in Holland Park, first became involved in drama at school in Hammersmith.

my life and career. Film sets and theatre stages are all far poorer for the loss of this great actor and man."

Juliet Stevenson, Rickman's friend and co-star in the movie *Truly, Madly, Deeply*, said: "Alan was blissfully funny in life

and on stage, he was a genius who could use just a few words to make a whole room collapse in laughter.

"He had massive sex appeal, pretty much anyone who came across him fell for him, and he was the most ferociously-loyal,

generous and loving friend."

JK Rowling said: "I am shocked and devastated. Alan was a magnificent actor and a wonderful man. My thoughts are with his wife Rima and the rest of Alan's family. We have all lost a great talent, they have lost part of their hearts."

The love story of Alan Rickman and Rima Horton, the former Labour councillor who served on Kensington and Chelsea Royal Borough Council for 20 years, is considered to be one of the most enduring and inspirational in showbusiness.

Rima Horton was Rickman's first and only girlfriend. They met in 1965 when they were teenagers at Chelsea College of Art and Design and stayed together for the next 50 years, only marrying in 2012 in New York.

Alan Rickman was born into a working class family in Acton in February 1946. His father, a factory worker, died when he was three, leaving his mother to raise him and his brothers David and Michael alone.

Rickman attended Derwentwater Primary School in Acton, where he then won a scholarship to Latymer Upper School in Hammersmith, where he first became involved in drama. After leaving Latymer, he attended Chelsea College of Art and Design and then the Royal College of Art. This education allowed him to work as a graphic designer for the *Notting Hill Herald*, which Rickman considered a more stable occupation than acting.

"Drama school wasn't considered the sensible thing to do at 18," he once said.

After graduation, Rickman and several friends opened a graphic design studio called Graphiti, but after three years of successful business, he decided to pursue acting professionally.

He wrote to request an audi-

tion with the Royal Academy of Dramatic Art, which he attended from 1972-74.

While there, he studied Shakespeare and supported himself by working as a dresser for Sir Nigel Hawthorne and Sir Ralph Richardson. He left after winning several prizes, including the Emile Littler Prize, the Forbes Robertson Prize and the Bancroft Gold Medal.

Hammersmith MP Andy Slaughter, a friend since they were both at Latymer School together, said he remembered Rickman as "a good man, a Labour activist and a local boy".

He added: "It is a tribute to his acting skill, his personality and unique voice and style that the announcement of his sad death went round the world on social media within seconds."

"Alan Rickman had a back story and a local story which was authentic and grounded in the community he grew up in and to which he gave so much. I think and hope it helped him excel in his chosen profession. He will be missed by millions, but especially missed in his home town."

Other Labour leaders including two prime ministers joined

Mr Slaughter in praising the star, who was a lifelong supporter of the Party.

Tony Blair said: "Alan was extraordinarily modest for someone so talented and successful and he was a delightful person to be around. He gave great support to Labour through good times and bad and I valued his help enormously."

Gordon Brown said: "Alan was a giant of British theatre and film and a supporter of the greatest of good causes" and Labour leader Jeremy Corbyn described him as "one of the greatest actors of his generation".

A member of the Royal Shakespeare Company, Rickman's acting triumphs included *The Barchester Chronicles*, in which he played the Rev Obadiah Slope, the RSC's *Les Liaisons Dangereuses*, for which he won a Tony Award nomination as the male lead, the *Vicomte de Valmont*, and also *Anthony And Cleopatra* with Dame Helen Mirren and *Sweeney Todd* with Johnny Depp.

He played the villain Hans Gruber opposite Mel Gibson in the hugely-successful *Die Hard*, he was the Sheriff of Nottingham in *Robin Hood Prince Of Thieves* and starred with Emma Thompson in *Love Actually*.

Thompson said: "Alan was the finest of actors and directors. What I remember most in this moment of painful leave-taking is his humour, intelligence, wisdom and kindness. He was a rare and unique human being."

Dame Helen Mirren added: "Alan was a towering person, physically, mentally and as an artist. He was utterly distinctive, with a voice that could suggest honey or a hidden stiletto blade, and the profile of a Roman emperor. He was also a great friend, generous and social."

Alan Rickman's two last films will be released in the spring; *Eye In The Sky*, a terrorist thriller with Dame Helen, will be released on April 8, and *Alice Through The Looking Glass*, Tim Burton's sequel to *Alice In Wonderland*, will be released by Disney on May 27 – with Rickman again playing the voice of Absolem the Caterpillar.

A spokesman for Rickman's agent said that details of a memorial service would be forthcoming.



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■ **MOVIE MAGIC:** Alan Rickman was Snape in the globally acclaimed Harry Potter films.

Robots work out how to help Londoners stay fit and healthy

BY GEOFF BAKER

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FUTUROLOGISTS are confidently predicting that Londoners will be staying fit in the years ahead by working out with robots at the gym.

Experts say within 30 years it will be normal to get fit with a 'gym-bot' and virtual reality technology will give joggers the experience of running with Mo Farah..

A report by futurologist Ian Pearson, commissioned by the gym chain Fitness First, paints such a picture of health for all that Fitness First is investing £7.5 million in the new technology.

"The rapid development of technology means that in the near future we can expect to see many more people engaging in activity that will directly benefit the health of the nation," said Mr Pearson.

"By 2046, the traditional Insta-fit-pic will be turbo-charged, with the introduction of 'drone-swarms'. A collection of drones will be activated and fly around the user recording performance in real time and from every angle.

"People will be able to see and adjust technique by watching video streamed directly to digital eyewear, and be able to post video imagery and commentary directly to social channels during a work out."

Fitness Director at Fitness First, Lee Matthews, said: "This is the ultimate selfie! Personal recognition really motivates a number of people - a trend we've seen take off in recent years. But the benefits are much broader; being able to monitor your movement in real time, replay video and break down technique will mean that performance will improve exponentially."

"Gym-bots" - robots wired to work as a personal trainer - also feature heavily in the future of fitness, says Mr Pearson.

"They will bring extraordinarily life-like movement and performance to a sparring session or being programmed as a pacemaker during any given workout," he said.

"Gym-bots will also be able to demonstrate perfect form and join users in virtual worlds.



■ TAKE THAT: Gym-bots could soon be guiding us to greater levels of fitness.

"Another exciting prediction sees the gamification of 'exercise fuse entertainment' with fitness. Not only will members be able to run on a beach or through a forest from the comfort of their treadmill, but friends in other locations will be able to join them in their virtual world."

Fitness First's Lee Matthews said: "You could be white river rafting with your friend who lives in Australia, all from the comfort of your gym in England. Equally, members could choose to run the London Marathon with Mo Farah or cycle with Victoria Pendleton.

"But it doesn't stop at virtual and augmented reality, smart

equipment will mean that traditional treadmills will be able to react to the virtual experience, moving to give the user an even more realistic experience and increasing the intensity of the work out.

"The benefits of this technology being readily available in a fitness environment are directly linked to keeping people motivated. A major barrier to fitness is engagement - keeping people interested and making it feel less like hard work. This not only introduces an element of excitement, but it also promises almost limitless choices in terms of what you could be doing in any given day."

The birth of a new technol-

ogy - dubbed Active-Skin by Ian Pearson - will take performance to a completely new level.

"The addition of layers of electronic capability onto and into the skin will allow state of the art monitoring, linking the nervous system to external IT," he said. "Active-Skin will activate equipment and upload personal profiles to machinery so it can see what was done the day before and what needs to be done to improve performance. Heart-rates, blood pressure and more will be monitored in minute detail allowing users to respond instantly to their body's needs, all through Active-Skin.

"Incredibly, sensations will also be recorded and replayed

to accelerate learning. For example, when someone starts a new activity, it takes time to learn the best grips and the right movements before they become proficient. The ability to put signals into the tissue means that muscle memory can very quickly be trained.

"The possibilities blow my mind," said Mr Matthews.

"Anything that can give us data on what's working and what's not in real time can only improve human performance and ultimately improve our health in leaps and bounds. Every body is different and this will allow us to create programmes based on minute detail, bespoke to each member."

Log in and help your local council

COUNCILLORS are urging west Londoners to report street repairs and anti-social behaviour - and say they've made it easier than ever thanks to an improved online interactive tool that's mobile friendly.

A new map based reporting function on the Hounslow Highways website allows users to track the status of their report. Anyone who provides a valid email address can receive updates on what action has been taken. The map also allows registered users to see all enquiries reported in the last month.

Most street cleansing issues and anti-social behaviour can be reported online, including: graffiti, fly tipping, litter, dog fouling, bird feeding and flyposting.

Councillor Amrit Mann, Deputy Leader of Hounslow Council, said: "Reporting online is the quickest way for residents to contact us and this new tool makes it easier than ever.

"We want to make Hounslow cleaner but everyone has a part to play to make this happen. Not behaving anti-socially and reporting things like dirty streets will help us create a better borough together.

"If you spot something while out and about take a picture on your mobile phone, go online and pinpoint the issue on a map within minutes. You'll be kept informed of progress and can even see what other people have reported."

Hounslow Highways Service Director, Rob Gillespie, said: "The new mapping based reporting function provides real time alerts to customers informing them exactly when their enquiry has been investigated and when works have been programmed, if required."

Expertise on the agenda

PROFESSIONALS, guests and parents at independent day school Abingdon House School, in Broadly Terrace (NW1) were recently provided with invaluable creative inspiration as two renowned individuals from the music and education industries joined their Very Special Lecture Series.

Held at St Paul's Church in Marylebone, which lies adjacent to the school, Dr. Adam Ockelford PhD ARAM, Professor of Music at Roehampton University shared an insightful talk, entitled *In the Key of Genius*, whilst Derek Paravicini, acclaimed concert pianist gave a captivating performance.

Westminster expects, Redmayne hopes

WESTMINSTER-BORN actor Eddie Redmayne is hoping to repeat his 2015 Oscar winning success as he competes against Leonardo DiCaprio for the best actor award at this year's ceremony in Hollywood.

Redmayne, who is nominated for his role as transgender

pioneer Lili Elbe in *The Danish Girl*, won the 2015 Academy Award for his performance as Stephen Hawking in *The Theory of Everything*.

The Danish Girl, directed by Tom Hooper is loosely based on the lives of two Danish painters in the 1920s, and has

also been nominated for Best Picture along with the semi-biopic western *The Revenant* starring DiCaprio and the latest in the Australian action movie series, *Mad Max: Fury Road*.

Redmayne was born in Westminster and attended Cole Court before Eton College,

where he was in the same year as Prince William. The actor shot to fame with his portrayal of Lieutenant Stephen Wraysford in the First World War drama *Bird Song* before thrilling legions of musical fans as Marius in the 2012 film version of *Les Misérables*.

Many are tipping DiCaprio for the nod from the academy but with Matt Damon also nominated for his role in *The Martian*, the Best Actor category will once again one of the most hotly contested at the ceremony which will take place on February 8.

ROYAL LONDON

Ouch! 'Star' treatment for Palace

BY GEOFF BAKER

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THE Royal Family is about to come under ridiculing attack from a new Channel 4 series by the comedy team that specialises in trashing the famous.

The makers of *Star Stories*, the TV satire that uses lookalikes to mercilessly send-up celebrities, have been given the green light to use the same cruel and cutting comedy techniques to poke fun at The Queen and turn life at Buckingham Palace into a royal soap opera.

The new soap, *The Windsors*, has been especially commissioned by Channel 4 to coincide with The Queen's 90th birthday this year so that scriptwriters can take the mickey out of the celebrations and portray the Royal Family as "ludicrous".

The new series means that the Royal Family will now be the targets of mockery and derision on both sides of the Atlantic. In

the USA, they are already the targets of send-ups from *The Royals*, a fictionalised drama which paints them as power-mad bed-hoppers, with Elizabeth Hurley starring as a randy monarch desperate to keep her heavy-partying children out of the newspapers.

Although *The Royals* has been panned by the US critics, with *The Chicago Reader* advising readers to "think of the worst hour-long prime-time soap operas to have assaulted our senses over the past 30 or so years, then go ahead and add this one to your brain's trash heap", the trashier it gets the more popular it has become with viewers.

Buckingham Palace has refused to comment on *The Royals* and it is expected to maintain a tight lip on *The Windsors* too, but royal-watchers expect that The Queen and her family will be outraged by the new Channel 4 show.

The Duke of Edinburgh, famous for tolerating absolutely nothing that pokes fun at The

Queen, is predicted to be incensed by the 30-minute episodes.

Prince Harry is expected to become a particular target in *The Windsors* as the programme makers are boasting that they will be aiming to send up the royals' love lives much more graphically than *Spitting Image* ever attempted.

The first six-part series has been commissioned by Channel 4's Head of Comedy Phil Clarke and Deputy Head of Comedy Nerys Evans. It will be written by Bert Tyler-Moore and George Jeffrie, who created the notorious *Star Stories*.

Clarke, who was made Channel 4's comedy chief 14 months ago, said: "In *The Windsors*, our much-loved Royal family is re-imagined through the lens of a soap opera, and although the stories are completely fictional and follow the imagined lives and loves of the family, they are inspired by real events.

"As a result, writers Bert and George have outdone even the funniest, most ludicrous issue of *Hello!* magazine ever."

Channel 4 is already attempting to play down the extent of the monarchical mockery as insiders say TV executives fear a huge backlash from politicians and royalists who will be shocked by the show, in which the royals will be featured using such strong language that Channel 4 is to issue a parents' advisory before each episode,



■ UNDER FIRE: Sir Elton John, above, Bono, top and many other celebrities came in for brutal parody in the original *Star Stories* series on Channel 4.

warning that it is "not suitable for viewers under the age of 16".

"Infused by our gossip-fuelled sense of what we think we know about them, *The Windsors* is a joyous weekly peek behind the curtains of Britain's most famous family," said a Channel 4 spokesman.

But celebrities including Sir Paul McCartney, Sir Elton John, the Beckhams, Kate Moss and U2 frontman Bono are thought to have found little that was "joyous" when *Star Stories* went for the jugular with them.

In the *Star Stories* episode on Sir Elton, the

superstar was portrayed as a Princess Diana-obsessed halfwit, forever throwing foul-mouthed tantrums and bullying his staff after cocaine binges.

The *Star Stories* special on Heather Mills was even harder-hitting, painting her former husband Sir Paul McCartney as

a ranting ego-maniac, self-obsessed, cruel and loathed as a domineering tyrant by his pals in The Beatles.

Other stars, including Bob Geldof, Simon Cowell, Take That, Sadie Frost and Jude Law fared no better in other *Star Stories*, in which their egos were remorselessly ridiculed.

Now Channel 4 insiders are expecting uproar over *The Windsors*, especially as it is to be screened in such a special year for The Queen.

"The writers of *Star Stories* don't ever pull their punches, their comedy is strong stuff and you need to be of a very special character to survive their attacks," said one TV executive.

"Cruelly sending up pop stars is one thing, but giving the same treatment to the Royal Family is something completely different and this could all rebound badly on Channel 4. There is likely to be a furious reaction from some viewers."

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■ EASY TARGETS: The *Star Stories* writers put the boot into the Beckhams, the LiveAid celebrities and many others – and now plan to target the Royal Family in the Queen's 90th birthday year. TV commentators expect a furious backlash against the programme makers from angry viewers.



ROYAL LONDON

Peep inside wardrobe of our best-dressed royals

BY GEOFF BAKER
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DUE to overwhelming public demand, Kensington Palace is to extend and enlarge its hugely-popular exhibition of the wardrobes of the three women who defined royal style of the 20th century; The Queen, Princess Margaret and Princess Diana.

Following the success of royal fashion shows which started at the palace three years ago, next month an all-new dress display in the Fashion Rules exhibition at Kensington Palace will take visitors even further into the wardrobes of the best-dressed royals, expanding our glimpse of their era-defining style choices.

"From the 'New Look' glamour of Princess Margaret in the 1950s, the elegance of The Queen in the 1960s and 1970s, and the tailored drama of outfits created for Diana, Princess of Wales in the early 1990s, the display will continue to explore how these women navigated the fashion 'rules' defined by their royal duties in unique style," said a spokesman for Historic

Royal Palaces, which is staging the event.

As the Queen's younger sister, Princess Margaret experimented with fashion, and in the 1950s patronised the Paris couturiers to create a distinctive high-glamour silhouette.

"Being among the first to embrace Christian Dior's full skirted New Look – in stark contrast to the frugal fashions of post-war rationing – the princess's bold outfit choices were imitated the world over," said the spokesman.

An exquisite late 1940s candy striped dress created for Margaret by royal couturier Norman Hartnell in the Paris style will go on display at Kensington Palace for the first time, alongside silk scarves and sunglasses from designers such as Yves Saint Laurent and Christian Dior.

"The new exhibits reveal the discerning eye for quality and high fashion considerations of this thoroughly modern princess," said the spokesman.

By contrast, the richly decorated wardrobe created for The Queen in the 1960s and 1970s by stalwarts of British couture such as Norman Hartnell and Hardy Amies showcase a continuing royal trend of diplomatic dressing, rendered elegantly

across the finest silks, duchesse satins and patterned organza suitable for even the warmest of foreign tours.

"The stunning outfits on display include formal dresses created for state visits to France and the Middle East, and for engagements as diverse as an investiture in Pakistan and a world film premiere in Leicester Square," said the spokesman. "They also reveal the special considerations in dressing as a monarch. The gowns are bold in colour to stand out in a crowd and are carefully designed to allow for the wearing of insignia. This long-standing tradition of diplomatic dressing continues to this day."

For Diana, the early 1990s signalled a move towards a more tailored look, with dresses from this period a result of collaboration with key designers such as Bruce Oldfield and Catherine Walker to craft a sleek signature look.

"The Princess's faithful patronage of home-grown designers was credited with almost single-handedly reviving the flagging British fashion industry, and the outfits on display will explore the rules of her much-imitated style," said the spokesman.

"From a much-copied tartan

and black velvet evening gown designed for an evening of Scottish dancing at Balmoral, to the double-breasted styling of a bottle green silk velvet halterneck worn privately by the princess – and later made famous by Mario Testino's iconic photographs commissioned to support the sale of her dresses at Christies – the display will explore how Diana's wardrobe had the power to set trends both at home and abroad, and represented a truly modern royal style."

Libby Thompson, Historic Royal Palaces curator, said: "Fashion Rules has proved popular with our visitors, and we're delighted to be able to expand on this theme to celebrate the style evolution of three iconic modern royal women. The new display will delve even deeper into the royal wardrobe, revealing some real surprises that I hope will challenge the way we think of royal style."

It is hoped that further exhibitions will include the style choices of the Duchess of Cambridge, who is continuing the royal impact on fashion into the 21st century and whose influence has given birth to the "Kate Effect" which is so highly prized by and beneficial to the designers whose clothes she chooses.



■ **STYLE:** Catherine Walker for Diana, Princess of Wales, 1990. Picture copyright Historic Royal Palaces and Museo de la Moda

Bhutan: Kate and William can look and learn

Memo to: The Duke & Duchess of Cambridge
From: The Foreign Office
[London Weekly News branch]

Your Royal Highnesses,
When you visit Bhutan in the Spring it may be wise to avoid, or at least enquire about, any local pork dishes during banquets there – you could end up believing that it's not only pigs that might fly, as it has long been traditional in the country for the boars there to be fed on a diet of marijuana.



■ **KISS AND TELL:** The Duchess of Cambridge and the Queen of Bhutan have much in common.

only been used to feed pigs.

In fact it was not until 1999, when Bhutan became the last country on the planet to introduce television, that the Bhutanese learned that there were other possible uses for the plant which grows abundantly in the mountainous kingdom reckoned to be the most beautiful in the world.

Although William and Kate are to be dispatched to Bhutan "at the request of Her Majesty's Government", there will be much that they can learn from the trip for their own advantage.

As Prince William will at some point inherit the title of Prince of Wales and take over his father's Duchy of Cornwall and its eco-farming policy, a point of common interest will be that Bhutan is streets ahead of the rest of the globe as it is

the first country in the world with 100 per cent organic produce.

Another tip from Bhutan that the health-conscious royals may care to note as a way ahead for the UK is that the tiny land of just 770,000 population is the only country in the world where the selling and smoking of tobacco is outlawed.

Yet another is Bhutan's pioneering example as being the only place on Earth to measure its economy in terms of Gross National Happiness. Instead of the Gross National Product, the calibration by which everywhere else judges wellbeing, the Bhutanese believe that a happy heart is more enriching than a fat wallet.

Bhutan's revolutionary GHP concept represents a commitment to building an economy

that would serve its culture based on Buddhist spiritual values instead of western material development gauged by gross domestic product.

Five years ago the United Nations approved a Bhutan-sponsored Resolution 65/309, titled *Happiness: Towards a Holistic Approach to Development*, which was co-sponsored by 68 countries. It stated that "happiness is a fundamental human goal and universal aspiration; that GDP by its nature does not reflect that goal; that unsustainable patterns of production and consumption impede sustainable development; and that a more inclusive, equitable and balanced approach is needed to promote sustainability, eradicate poverty, and enhance wellbeing and profound happiness."

On a more serious note, the

Duchess of Cambridge may learn much from Jetsun Pema, the young Queen of Bhutan, as they both share a common interest in combating the trade in sex slavery. Women are trafficked from Bhutan to other countries for commercial sexual exploitation, a trade that Jetsun Pema is keen to stamp out.

The Duchess has long supported work to end sex slavery and it would not be a huge surprise if for her trip to Bhutan she again selects part of her wardrobe from the fashion label Beulah.

The ethical label uses a portion of its profits to help victims of India's sex trafficking trade. In the past Kate has helped to raise awareness of the brand and its work by wearing a few of their loose and lightweight dresses when she is on tours in hot climates.

"She's a wonderful ambassador for British fashion and her support definitely raises awareness and recognition of the brand," said Natasha Rufus Isaacs, co-founder of Beulah. "A few of the press have picked up on the charity angle on our business, that we help vulnerable and trafficked women and provide an alternative, sustainable livelihood. Raising awareness and funds for the cause is the heart of what we do here at Beulah and the Duchess has been a big help in that."

Clearly, if the two royal beauties – Kate and Jetsun – were to make some sort of statement against sex slavery during the visit, it could generate much more awareness as the publicity surrounding the trip is expected to be vast.

This will be a meeting of the royal pin-up of the West with the royal pin-up of the East and the royal press pack will be falling over themselves to make comparisons.

One other idea that William and Kate could import back from Bhutan is the royal calendar. Every year the Bhutanese government publishes a calendar featuring King Jigme and Queen Jetsun in a series of loving poses.

Although there are scores of unofficial William and Kate calendars on the market, including the doubtless essential 'What Kate Wore Calendar' for fashionistas, there is no official one. Kensington Palace does publish an advent calendar each year, but not a William and Kate one.

Royal watchers believe that the Historic Royal Palaces shop, which sells the advent calendars along with all manner of other Kensington Palace souvenirs, could be missing a trick here as an official calendar would surely be a sell-out, especially if it featured pictures taken by the Duchess, an acclaimed photographer, herself.

Capital nights

EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

FOLLOWING the news that next month's Brit Awards will pay a special tribute to David Bowie, the cream of the rock world is expected to turn out to honour their friend and everybody's hero.

Tickets for the Brit Awards are already selling for £1,500 a pair and there is not expected to be one empty seat in the house when the show goes on at The O2 on February 24.

The tribute to "the visionary and ground-breaking David Bowie" was announced within hours of the rock star's death by Brits chairman Max Lousada.

Mr Lousada said: "David Bowie was one of the most important and influential songwriters and performers ever and, like so many fans around the world, we're devastated to hear of his loss. A visionary and ground-breaking pioneer, he has inspired generations of musicians and will continue to shape music for many years to come. Naturally, we wish to honour his extraordinary life and work at the forthcoming Brit Awards and pay a fitting tribute to one of our greatest icons."

Bowie was named best British male at the 2014 Brit Awards – becoming the oldest recipient of a Brit Award in the ceremony's history.

The award, accepted on his behalf by model Kate Moss wearing his Ziggy Stardust outfit, came 18 years after he won the Outstanding Contribution Award at the Brits. It was also 30 years since he had last been named best British male.

This year's Brit Awards will include performances from Adele, Justin Bieber and Coldplay, but it is expected that an all-star band will

also perform a selection from Bowie's giant catalogue of hits.

Meanwhile, West London's premier rock spot, The Half Moon at Putney, is bracing itself for a rush for tickets from fans of Bowie for a tribute night in April that is set to turn into a glorious memorial show.

The renowned and accomplished Bowie tribute band, Absolute Bowie, are returning to The Half Moon on April 29, and all of the £12 advance tickets are expected to sell out fast as London gathers to honour its brilliant son.

Absolute Bowie are reckoned to be Europe's most authentic Bowie tribute band, priding themselves on "faithfully interpreting the music of David Bowie with uncanny accuracy", and have been personally endorsed by the Starman's old drummer Woody Woodmansey.

Mick Woodmansey, who is the only

relive it, I definitely recommend it – the closest to the real thing you'll get."

As a typical set list from the band includes at least 25 Bowie hits, including: *Space Oddity*, *The Man Who Sold The World*, *Changes*, *Oh You Pretty Things*, *Queen Bitch*, *Ziggy Stardust*, *Jean Genie*, *Rebel Rebel*, *Diamond Dogs*, *Fame*, *Sound And Vision*, *Golden Years*, *Life On Mars*, *Modern Love*, *Let's Dance*, *Heroes*, *China Girl*, *Drive In Saturday* and *Rock 'n Roll Suicide*, this homage to the legend and his golden years is expected to be an extra

Half Moon pays emotional salute to the Starman

surviving member of the classic Ziggy Stardust line-up, said: "As one who was there, watching Absolute Bowie put me back there again. For anyone who missed it or fans who want to

special night.

As aging, death and break-ups

brings about the sad end of an increasing number of classic bands, and the requirements of those still at the top keeps them in arenas and away from intimate gigs,

The Half Moon is building a strong reputation as the venue where fans can relive the glory days of their heroes and this season the famed pub will be hosting all manner of tribute nights.

Next month The Half Moon hosts the Stones, Tom Petty, Queen and AC/DC acts in the shape of Rollin' Stoned, Too Petty, The Bohemian Queen and Dirty DC and through March and April there will be tribute bands performing the music of The Smiths, Genesis, Steely Dan, Led Zeppelin, Fleetwood Mac, T Rex, Neil Young, Rod Stewart, Status Quo and Kate Bush.

Some say it's not the same as the real thing. Some say, as the tribute bands master the look and sound of their idols to perfection, that it's better. For David Bowie fans, which means pretty much everyone, the April 29 show may be an emotional memorial. For more details, go to www.halfmoon.co.uk



■ **ABSOLUTE GENIUS:** Putney's Half Moon pub will stage a musical salute to David Bowie on April 29, featuring the acclaimed tribute act Absolute Bowie



BBC's celebrities go in search of the Marigold standard

AND now it's time for The Third Best Exotic Marigold Hotel – or rather *The Real Marigold Hotel*, as the BBC is calling its opportunist nick from the blockbuster film.

In place of Judi Dench, Celia Imrie, Bill Nighy, Ronald Pickup, Maggie Smith, Tom Wilkinson and Penelope Wilton, now we shall see Miriam Margolyes, dancer Wayne Sleep, actor Sylvester McCoy, comedian Roy Walker, chef Rosemary Shrager, darts champion Bobby George, singer Patti Boulaye and former news reader Jan Leeming going east for three weeks to see if they would consider spending their golden years retiring to the other side of the world.

In a new series for BBC2 which mashes up the movie with *Celebrity Big Brother*, the group will land in colourful Jaipur, capital of the state of Rajasthan in Northern India, to test whether they can set up a better, more rewarding retirement there than in the UK.

"In the scorching heat, the group will take over a haveli – an Indian private mansion – and from the moment they arrive they will have to work out how to set up home together: from who'll cook and clean and whether they will hire staff, to how they will get around and spend their time," said a spokesman for the BBC.

"Their unforgettable Indian adventure will see the group fully

embrace Indian culture, from the surprises of the capital's largest slum to meeting Jaipur's royal family at the opulent Rambagh Palace.

"As they settle into local life, members of the group will take to yoga and learn some Hindi, experience shopping in the hectic streets, hunt for potential properties and take advantage of the medical care."

That should be interesting, with Viagra at 2p a pill in India.

"From the environment to the food, the transport to the customs, moving away from the UK is guaranteed to be a culture shock for our cast – as they leave routines and loved ones behind to adapt to living together and to a



■ **EASTERN PROMISE:** Jan Leeming

completely new way of life," said the BBC. But Kim Shillinglaw, Controller of BBC Two, says that there is a serious social purpose to this show that rather looks like just another celebrity jolly.

"This year BBC Two will be tackling a number of contemporary issues, from the black economy to low pay, with lively, entertaining new programmes with real purpose."

"I'm delighted to be kicking off with this warm and very funny experiment examining how we spend our older years."

"The series is both entertaining and incredibly moving and raises some big questions about the way we live the later part of our lives," she said.

Capital nights

EDITED BY GEOFF BAKER

THE BBC has quietly launched Operation Hunk Hunt in a bid to find muscular eye candy for the new factor in "the ratings phwoar" – ladies who drool.

Hugely encouraged by the wave of women's fervid following for stripped-off scenes of Aiden Turner half-naked in *Poldark* and gratuitously-clad in just a towel for the recent re-make of *And Then There Were None*, the BBC is searching for more manly stars to draw female audiences to their dramas and shows.

Although "weedy" presenters like Chris Evans have their following, the BBC has been surprised by a blatantly lustful reaction to Turner

Benedict Cumberbatch is anyone's guess, but it could be good news for the much-fancied model David Gandy.

The impossibly-attractive Gandy is said to be top of commissioners' lists as the star that they want to build new shows around as research shows he would pull in a big audience.

Now there's talk that TV chiefs are keen for the Head Hunk to present a new series of programmes around his love of powerboat racing, hoping that Gandy could create a new TV audience for the sport, making it the women's version of the male-dominated Grand Prix coverage.

BBC male order



and fellow hunk James Norton, currently starring in *War and Peace* as Prince Andrei.

A barrage of leering comments on social media has accompanied screening of *Poldark* and *War and Peace* – dubbed *Phwoar and Peace* by many hashtaggers on Twitter – and commissioning editors have now realised that there is a whole new audience in the hunk fans' market.

What this could spell for not-exactly macho stars like the current drama darling



■ **MANPOWER:** James Norton, above, in *War and Peace*, Aidan Turner, left, in *Poldark*, and the much-fancied model David Gandy, top left

WILL video kill the radio star? To the alarm of some listeners, the BBC is planning to televise the *Today* programme.

Radio 4 chiefs are preparing to film the breakfast programme that has become a byword for butting-in, loaded questions and devil's advocacy in a drive to attract a bigger audience for the former flagship.

The programme, which is now considered by many to be lagging behind Eddie Mair's *PM* in terms of news and way behind Paddy O'Connell's Broadcasting House in terms of human interest, wants to stream *Today* online as part of promoting its as a brand.

Radio bosses believe that new presenters Nick Robinson and Mishal Husain have a significant Twitter following and they are keen to engorge this by presenting live TV clips of their interviews.

"I want us to completely overhaul how we do digital content and to exploit the *Today* brand and the presenter brands," said the programme's editor Jamie Angus.

"We have got to see ourselves as a multimedia production outfit, not just a radio programme".

Others believe that the bid to turn *Today* into the most-watched radio show in the UK may be the kiss of death for the show, as watching presenters endlessly interrupting interviewees who are about to make a point which is then lost to the intrusion is even more tedious than listening to it. As Michael Parkinson, master of the art of an interview, used to say, people want to hear the answers, not the clever dick questions.

■ **X APPEAL:** Abbey Clancy may be in the running to be a judge on ITV's *The X Factor*



THERE'S talk that *The X Factor* could take the Abbey road to reviving its ratings when the next series returns to ITV, by signing Mrs Crouch as a judge.

Abbey Clancy, the *Strictly*-winner wife of footballer Peter Crouch, is said to be among the names that Simon Cowell is considering as a newcomer in a possible reshuffle of the judging panel of the show that slid in popularity last year.

Following the news that none of *The X Factor* episodes made the top 40 most-watched programmes of the year, the star-maker is looking at his line-up of famous faces on the panel and weighing up whether to give the show a new oomph with a glamorous new judge.

Rita Ora has already hinted that she may not return to the show for the 2016 series and there is some doubt that Radio 1 star Nick Grimshaw has been quite the hit with the public that Simon Cowell had hoped for. Although there has been much suggestion that Cowell may bring back *X Factor* veteran Louis Walsh as a judge, in other quarters there are whispers that the show needs a brand new face to lift it in the ratings and high on the list of possibilities is the 29-year-old lingerie model who has just been announced as the head judge of Britain's Next Top Model.

"Abbey Clancy is very much the woman of now," said one TV executive.

"She's like Amanda Holden, Elizabeth Hurley and Ulrika Jonsson were all in their time before her; part girl next door, part girl of your dreams. And because she's on the up and is not yet mega-famous, she may be empathic with the wannabe acts. "If Simon decides that he needs a clean sweep to bring the viewers back, Abbey would definitely be a contender."

Will Paul do a turn down at the pub?

THE last time that Paul McCartney played a gig in a pub was when he was a teenager and he and John Lennon performed at The Fox and Hounds near Reading to an audience of not very many, maybe half a dozen.

That was way back in 1960 when the yet-to-be-Beatles appeared as The Nerk Twins at the Caversham inn that was owned by Macca's cousin Bett Robbins and her husband Mike.

John and Paul played two nights at the pub, performing a rock and roll set, and although regulars said the gigs livened up the place, fans were not exactly breaking down the doors to get in.

But we hear that they very well could

be on May 21 at another tiny pub, in Wiltshire. Each year village resident Andy Scott, guitarist with The Sweet, puts on a show in the beer garden of The Kings Arms in All Cannings, near Devizes, to raise money for research and treatment from his Rock Against Cancer event.

A couple of years back Andy persuaded a host of top stars including Paul, Brian May and Robert Plant to help raise awareness of the gig by posing for a selfie in a Rock Against Cancer T-shirt.

Now we hear that Macca may go one better. He has told organisers that one day he will perform at the charity event himself and now locals are wondering whether it will be this year that he

appears, headlining a bill that already includes Big Country, 10 cc, Marmalade, Suzi Quatro and Andy Scott himself.

Organisers are promising "some very special guests!" this year and of course few would be more special than Macca. See www.concertattheKings.co.uk



■ **STAR TURN:** Sir Paul McCartney backs the gig.

WINE & DINE

The food and
drink page for
West London

Billy and the Chicks

APROMISE of good music and excellent food without pretension is what's on offer from a newly opened venue in Soho.

Billy and the Chicks opened in early December and is a contemporary fried chicken shop specialising in simple yet exquisite comestibles alongside good beer and a really receptive ambiance, writes Nicky Sweetland.

I was invited to sample some of the great range of food on offer and enjoy an evening at the restaurant.

Set in the heart of Soho, the Saint Anne's Court restaurant has a fantastic feel as soon as you walk through the door.

The soundtrack is chosen by the staff, with a dedicated DJ booth used to play an imaginative mix of music, which adds to a verily chilled dining experience.

There's a hearty urban feel to the decor, with the walls adorned with photographs from the acclaimed cityscape photographer Simon Wheatley and a combination of subtle light sources which helps to maintain the relaxed mood.

I let the staff choose my supper so I could sample a range from the menu and was delighted with the results. Many of the dishes are served in bite-size portions so they are perfect to eat as bar snacks alongside a drink, or as part of a feast to share.

I first tried some Riblettes (£4), morsels of barbecue ribs perfect for munching on in a sweet and sticky sauce with a side of pickles (£1.50). The pickles were tart and vinegary and made for a great mix of tastes. I then tried some hot wings (£9) which had a proper



■ **AT YOUR SERVICE:** Billy Stock. Inset: succulent fare.

fiery kick and a little pot of Mac and cheese (£3.50) to take away some of the heat.

There's something really sociable about sharing lots of small dishes, and had I not been dining alone, I probably would have chosen this way of ordering. I let the staff guide me, however and so then chowed on a Stinger Burger (£11), which following on from the amount I had already eaten meant I couldn't finish – but it



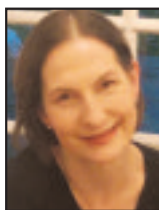
was a real treat. This was a succulent and spicy chicken breast served in a bun with salad.

My meal would have cost a total of £29, which is very reasonable when you consider I was served enough food for two people to be easily satisfied.

The restaurant offers a takeaway service so you can stop for a drink while you wait for your fare to be prepared – so it's a great place to visit as part of a night out in Soho.

Craven Cottage pie is a winner

Belinda Donovan is an experienced chef who was trained at the prestigious La Varenne cooking school in France. She compiled the **Hammersmith and Fulham Cook Book** in 2013 and is a regular writer of cookery columns and reviews. An enthusiast for all things Fulham, she has also written articles about the area's rich local history. She is currently a Conservative councillor for the Addison ward and served as Mayor of Hammersmith and Fulham for the year 2012-13



ICAUGHT up with Gerrard Madden, head chef for Fulham Football Club, recently and his enthusiasm for his job is contagious. We are both trained chefs and both very enthusiastic about food but his own passion for his work with Fulham goes to new levels.

Gerrard is head chef for Delaware North, who are caterers also for Wembley, Chelsea Football Club, Charlton Athletic, Arsenal and Derby County, as well as for many VIP airport lounges.

Gerrard started out being tutored by Kevin Woodford, one of the first TV chefs who was principal chef at his Chefs' College in Sheffield. He then came to London, worked at The Barclay Hotel, then Blackfriars Bridge Hotel and The Royal Soci-

ety for The Inner Temple, where he was chef to Lord Wolf.

Gerrard was also head chef for City Bank and Balls Brothers. He has organised functions at The National History Museum and also cooked for Silver Sturgeon Luxury River Cruises. What a track record.

Gerrard has been in charge of corporate catering at Fulham for two and a half years and the dining experience at Craven Cottage has understandably gone from strength to strength.

I was given a tour of the football club, including the kitchen, which smelled so delicious that I quickly became deeply envious of that day's lucky diners!

We discussed our passion for trying new recipes and I was promised

Gerrard's famous Craven Cottage pie, which has diners putting in repeat requests time after time.

As we finished the tour I commented on the immaculate pitch, which looked so much better than so many of the somewhat bedraggled specimens that are regularly on TV. As I said goodbye to Gerrard, armed with my new recipe, I felt very proud to live in the shadow of the famous football ground.

This recipe for Craven Cottage pie will spoil you for any other version, I promise!

Craven Cottage pie – serves 10 portions

500g minced beef
500g minced lamb
200g finely diced onion
200g 1cm diced carrots
200g 1cm diced parsnip
1 bunch mint
1 bunch sage
1 bunch rosemary
1 bunch thyme
200g marrow fat peas
Lea & Perrins
1 litre beef gravy
1kg mashed potato
Seasoning as required

Method – sweat off the minced beef and add half of the onions and all the parsnip along with chopped thyme and sage.

Thoroughly cook out the mince to get rid of any excess fat, then remove from heat and drain well, then taste and season as required.

The same process can be done to the lamb, adding the onions, rosemary and mint.

Once you have both mixes well drained take a large casserole dish and put your layer of beef mix in.

At this point sprinkle a little Lea & Perrins over the mix, then place a layer of marrowfat peas (drained of course). Use the lamb mix to top the marrowfat peas. You now need to gently pour your gravy onto the meat. Take care not to flood the dish as this will bubble over the sides and burn.

Once you have sufficient liquid in your dish spoon or pipe on buttery mashed potato and you are ready to bake in the oven – a 160 pre-heated oven for about 20 minutes.

When the mash goes golden brown you are ready to serve with greens of your choice.

MARK HIX'S RECIPE OF THE WEEK



Rhubarb blancmange

Serves four

OLD classics such as blancmange are back. In the 1970s, when they were last in vogue, they would be flavoured with artificial fruit – not today though, thank goodness. Now it is all about fresh flavours.

Ingredients

400g rhubarb, trimmed and roughly chopped
100g caster sugar
1 large gelatine leaf (3g)

Method

PUT the rhubarb in a saucepan with the sugar over a low heat with 100ml water and stir until the sugar has dissolved. Continue cooking on a low heat for seven to eight minutes, until the rhubarb is soft, then strain into a sieve over a bowl, pressing the rhubarb with the back of a spoon to extract as much juice as possible. Transfer the juice to a clean pan and simmer it until you have about 150ml.

Meanwhile, soak the gelatine in cold water for a few minutes, until soft, then squeeze out the water and stir into the rhubarb syrup.

Pour the syrup into four individual jelly moulds or one large one.

Blend the remaining rhubarb in the sieve into a purée in a liquidiser and put to one side.

Ingredients for the blancmange

3 leaves of gelatine (9g)
200ml full-fat milk
150ml double cream
The rhubarb purée
90g caster sugar

Method

BRING the milk, cream and sugar to the boil and at the same time soak the gelatine leaves in cold water until soft. Squeeze the water out of the gelatine leaves.

Remove the milk from the heat and stir in the gelatine until dissolved. Leave the mixture to cool (standing the pan in a bowl of ice will help). When cool, but not set, stir in the rhubarb purée and pour in to the moulds on top of the jelly.

Return to the fridge for 2-4 hours, or until set. To turn out, dip the moulds briefly in boiling water, then push the edges with your fingers to let the air escape. Turn out carefully.



■ **SWEET SUCCESS:** Mark's rhubarb blancmange.

Talk of the town

BY NICKY SWEETLAND

LUCILLE Ball was a true comedy icon and although her fame in Britain never matched that of her legendary status in the US, to many she will always be remembered for her perfect clowning and slapstick in the classic sitcom *I Love Lucy*.

The star, who was a model before she landed her first role on Broadway in 1929, worked until her death at the age of 77, with the last ten years proving to be some of the most problematic of her life. Those last ten years were documented by Ball's friend and confidante Lee Tannen and reproduced in first a bestselling book and then an award-winning play.

Next month the Jermyn Street Theatre will be the home to the production, which charts Tannen's special relationship with the actress over those last precious years, writes Nicky Sweetland.

Tannen told me: "It's called *I Loved Lucy* and it's based on a best-selling memoir that I wrote back in 2001 which really chronicles our relationship in the last decade of her life. It was bitter sweet after being so successful and obviously always successful and always iconic. It's really a personal portrait of what she was like in the last ten years."

Ball won numerous awards throughout her career and still inhabits many popular online videos with her vast array of hilarious facial expressions and perfect comic timing. I asked Lee how much of the funny side of her onscreen persona was reflected in reality when the cameras stopped rolling.

"Great question, very little. I thought that when I met her she was going to be the funniest woman in the world. Without spoiling too much of the play she said right off the bat that she didn't think she was funny."

"She said she knew how to take a script and make it terrific and she knew how to deliver the goods, that was her expression, but that she wasn't funny in real life, and she really wasn't. She was a terribly serious woman, sometimes too serious."



■ **THE GOOD TIMES:** Lucille Ball the way millions of fans remember her, in the hit US TV comedy. Above: Ball is played by Sandra Dickinson.

Lucy's fans have a ball

at times. It was quite a revelation to get to know her. She could be very funny and she was great when she was telling stories about Hollywood – but she really wasn't witty."

Tannen first met Ball as a child but cemented their close and enduring friendship as an adult. The last ten years of her life were mostly spent out of the spotlight and many of them around a backgammon table, where Tannen became Ball's confidante.

His memoir became an instant best seller. In 2010, he adapted it for the stage where it premiered at The Laguna Playhouse. He said he often wonders what his friend would think about the play.

"I think she'd be quite honoured. I paint a very realistic picture, a warts-and-all portrait. I really honour her because I love her so much to this day. I think she would be pleased. I think it's important that people realise that no matter how much fame you have or success or money, we are all just human beings with the same foibles – and the same things make us hurt or make us happy."

For Tannen, the theatre just off Piccadilly Circus is the perfect venue for his celebration of the star as London held a very special place in Ball's heart.

"She did a special in 1970 called *Lucy in London*. It was very fun, very mod, with Carnaby Street and all that. She had a real soft spot for London, which is another reason why I think she would cheer that it would come to London."

I Loved Lucy stars Sandra Dickinson, who's enjoyed a prolific career on stage and screen, notably as Trillian in the cult sci-fi TV series *The Hitchhiker's Guide To The Galaxy*. She is currently the voice of Grandma Tracy in CITV's *Thunderbirds Are Go*.

■ **I Loved Lucy** will run at the Jermyn Street Theatre from February 2 to 27. For more information visit the website jermynstreettheatre.co.uk

Law unleashes new showcase

MULTI award-winning stand-up comedian Tony Law will bring his brand new show to the Leicester Square Theatre next month.

The comic, who is best known for his absurdly funny contributions to shows like *Have I Got News for You* (BBC 1) and *Never Mind the Buzzcocks* (BBC 2) is taking to the central London venue as part of his Frillemorphosis tour from February 4 to 6.

Law, pictured right, promises to be "deeply astonishing and stunningly intellectual" with this new show, which will once again see a large proportion of improvisation included within the hilarious routine.

For more details visit the website mrtonylaw.com



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Talk of the town

Craig welcomes Alexandra to the delights of musical comedy

ALEXANDRA Burke will star as Deloris Van Cartier in the national tour of Curve's new production of the hit musical comedy *Sister Act*.

The show features original music by the eight-time Oscar and Tony award winner Alan Menken and will be directed and choreographed by *Strictly Come Dancing* judge Craig Revel Horwood.

He said: "I am truly thrilled that Alexandra is going to be our leading lady in this all-new production of *Sister Act* at Curve. Alexandra is such a fantastic singer and actress that I know she is going to be amazing. I couldn't think of anyone better to play the role of

the smart and funny Deloris."

Burke can currently be seen starring as Rachel Marron in the national tour of *The Bodyguard*, a part she also played in the West End. She originally rose to fame after winning the fifth series of *X Factor*. Her debut number one single *Hallelujah* sold over one million copies in the UK, a first for a British female soloist.

Burke said: "I'm over the moon to be given the opportunity to play the wonderful Deloris in *Sister Act*. It's such an iconic role and a part I've al-

ways wanted to play. I love touring the UK and I'm thrilled to be working with Craig and his amazing creative team. I can't wait to get started!"

Sister Act tells the hilarious story of a disco diva whose life takes a surprising turn when she witnesses a murder. Under protective custody she is hidden in the one place she won't be found – a convent! Disguised as a nun and under the suspicious watch of Mother Superior, Deloris helps her fellow sisters find their voices as she unexpectedly rediscovers her own. A sparkling tribute to the universal power of friendship, sisterhood and music.

Leicester's Curve is one of the UK's leading producing theatres, achieving both audience and critical acclaim. Opened in 2008, Curve's award-winning building offers a unique visitor experience. Led by chief executive Chris Stafford and artistic director Nikolai Foster, the theatre has become renowned for the quality of its home-grown musicals and drama productions with recent successes including Roald Dahl's *The Witches*, Lionel Bart's *Oliver!*, Tennessee Williams' *A Streetcar Named Desire* and Sue Townsend's *The Secret Diary of Adrian Mole The Musical*.

Further casting is still to be announced but for more details on the show visit the website www.sisteractuktour.co.uk



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Teal plays Cadogan Hall date

AWARD-WINNING jazz singer Clare Teal will play a one-night-only concert at the Cadogan Hall in the heart of Chelsea on February 12.

The show explores some of the greatest songs ever written, including those composed by the giants of the great American and British songbooks through to the work of more contemporary writers crafting the standards of today.

For performances of songs from Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Burt Bacharach, Leonard Cohen and Van Morrison, Teal is joined by her 16-piece Hollywood Band conducted by world class trumpeter, composer and arranger Guy Barker.

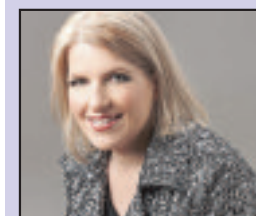
Teal is one of the UK's most celebrated and much loved jazz singers, as well as being a prolific recording artist and popular BBC Radio 2 broadcaster. After signing to independent label Candid in 2001 and releasing three acclaimed titles, it was Teal's first album for Sony Jazz which became her breakthrough record. Released in 2004, *Don't Talk* topped the jazz charts and entered the UK Top 20, garnering extraordinary plaudits and several awards. She has gone on to release eight more successful albums, five of them on her own label, MUD Records.

Highlights of Teal's live work include opening twice for Liza Minnelli at Kenwood House and the Royal Festival Hall, singing with the BBC Big Band at Proms in the Park and headlining the Bourbon Street tent at the Glastonbury Festival.

For more details visit the website cadoganhall.com



■ **MUSICAL TREAT:** Alexandra Burke is to star in the musical comedy *Sister Act* when it goes on tour, directed by Craig Revel Horwood, inset left.



■ **ONE-OFF:** Clare Teal.

Funny fix for troubled relationships

FOLLOWING performances at the Edinburgh Fringe last year, one of the most exciting and finest emerging new comedians, James Veitch, has announced that his brand new show *Genius Bar* is transferring to the Soho Theatre in February.

Ex-Apple genius and self-proclaimed tech nerd, Veitch shares his misguided forays into online dating, unrequited love, and the alarming paucity of James's hard drive space with music, mischief, the Legend of Zelda; iCloud, Mac-books and 1980s nostalgia.

Genius Bar tells the story of how James tried to fix his relationship using the same troubleshooting techniques used to fix iPhones, iMacs and iPods, posing the ultimate question; "Why can't I wrap my heart in rice?"

This could be the ideal show for anyone who's ever had a broken heart... or a broken iPhone. Veitch's

first solo comedy show, *The Fundamental Interconnectedness of Everyone with an Internet Connection*, premiered at the Edinburgh Fringe in 2014 to wide acclaim and his tech niche was born.

Veitch will be performing *Genius Bar* at the Soho Theatre on February 1 and 2.

■ **LAUGHS:** James Veitch.



Talk of the town

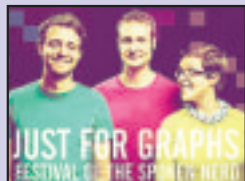
Lessons in the science of comedy

THE science comedy phenomenon, Festival of the Spoken Nerd, is back on the road with a brand new show and this time it's promoters say it's off the chart.

The comedy trio will seek to excel themselves with graph-a-minute fun on an unprecedented linear scale.

Just for Graphs will be packed with electrifying live experiments and statistically significant laughter. Experiments maestro Steve Mould (of BBC1's *Britain's Brightest*) will perform stand-up based on data from the birth of his first child, geek songstress Helen Arney (BBC2's *Coast*) sings an emotional tribute to the intrepid Philae lander, which travelled four billion miles only to run out of batteries on comet 67P, while Matt Parker (Discovery's *You Have Been Warned*) will be "setting charts on fire" with the world's greatest graph. Don't miss them turning the audience into a live speaker cable, complete with retro fax machine solo.

Since their last smash hit tour show, *Full Frontal Nerdity*, Festival of the Spoken Nerd



■ **STAR STATS:** Heading for east London this month.

have filmed their first DVD (which is available now) and racked up over a million views on YouTube for their experiments, songs and stand-up. As well as sell-out shows all over the UK, the Nerds have performed at Shakespeare's Globe, Hammersmith Apollo (with Robin Ince and Brian Cox), The British Library, TED – and this summer they will make their Las Vegas debut at James Randi's The Amazing Meeting.

Just for Graphs will play the final date of their UK tour at the People's Palace in east London on the January 24. For more details visit the website festivalofthespokennerd.com

Stock answers

THE film *Taking Stock*, starring Kelly Brook, will have a Valentine's Day screening at the Regent Street Cinema.

The comedy crime caper, written and directed by Maeve Murphy, won four awards at the 2015 Monaco International Film Festival, including the coveted Independent Spirit Award.

On February 14 the cinema will also host a post-show question and answer session with Murphy, actors Brook (to be confirmed), Scot Williams and Jay Brown.



■ **OLD BOYS ACT:** Morgan & West promise to amuse, delight, astound and befuddle audiences this week.

TIME-TRAVELLING Victorian magic duo Morgan & West will return to their roots with their critically acclaimed show *Parlour Tricks* at east London's Wilton's Music Hall – a venue which, rather like the fantastical fellows, is the oldest remaining example of its kind.

Full of brain-bursting illusion and impossibility, conjuring, mind reading and a little bit of time travel, Morgan & West say they will astound and amuse with their grandest, most audacious and perplexing show to date.

In *Parlour Tricks* they return to a traditional format – a magic show, in a venue almost as steeped in Victorian beguile as the show itself, just as it would have been done in the late 19th century. Bringing together jaw-dropping feats of magic served with wit, charisma and no small amount of panache, *Parlour Tricks* celebrates the eclectic and enticing aspects of Victorian variety performance.

Morgan & West have been performing their unique magic shows across the UK and around the world, including sell-out shows at the Edinburgh Fringe, Perth Fringe World, Adelaide Fringe, where they were nominated for Best Family Show, and Buxton Fringe, where they were declared Best Comedy Show. They have also appeared on *Penn and Teller's Fool Us* (ITV) and *The Slammer* (CBBC).

Morgan & West are at Wilton's Music Hall now until Thursday, January 21 and on Saturday, January 23. For more details visit the website wiltons.org.uk

Artistic role for Ruffelle

FRANCES Ruffelle stars as sculptor Barbara Hepworth in a new production at Wilton's Music Hall later this month.

The Tony award-winning actress will join an all-star cast for *Springtime for Henry* (and Barbara).

Artist Mel Brimfield is teaming up with composer Gwyneth Herbert to present a fictitious lost musical reconstructed in fragments, centered around the lives of critically

acclaimed British sculptors Henry Moore and Hepworth on Tuesday, January 26 and Wednesday 27.

Alongside Ruffelle (*Les Misérables*, *Piaf*) is Laurence Olivier nominee Andrew C Wadsworth (*Oklahoma*, *Kiss Me Kate*) as Henry Moore, and Hugh Ross (*Passion*, *Woman in Black*) as The Critic.

For more details visit the website wiltons.org.uk



■ **BEASTLY:** Westminster's Soho Theatre will play host to the smash-hit Edinburgh Fringe show BEASTS later this month. The show will be recorded live for a DVD, and the group, who are Owen Roberts, James McNicholas and Ciarán Dowd, want a very special audience to join them for the occasion. BEASTS have been named as one of the Amused Moose Comedy Awards Top Ten and the critical acclaim has placed them among the top reviewed comedy shows at the Edinburgh Fringe in both 2014 and 2015. In 2014 they made their BBC Radio 4 debut in *Sketchorama* and their filmed sketches have achieved over 100,000 hits on their YouTube channel. BEASTS will be at the Soho Theatre from January 25 to 30 and if you'd like to be part of the audience for their live DVD you can get more details and tickets from the website sohotheatre.com

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THE WATERMILL RESTAURANT & GRILL SUNDAY CARVERY

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ONLY £6.95 AFTER 5PM
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CONDITIONS OF ACCEPTANCE FOR ALL ADVERTISEMENTS

Orders are accepted by the Publishers subject to the Standard Conditions agreed between the Newspaper Society and the Institute of Practitioners in Advertising. Save that:

1. Advertisements are accepted on the conditions that (a) descriptions relating to goods are accurate and in no way contravene the provisions of the Trade Descriptions Act 1968, and the Fair Trading Act 1973, and (b) the copy complies with the British Code of Advertising Practice. Advertisements offering credit or hire facilities must conform to the Consumer Credit (Advertisements) Regulations 1980.

2. 'Classified' Advertisers offering goods or service of a business, commercial or trade nature will, at the discretion of the Publishers, be deemed 'Trade Advertisers', and as such, must include their names in advertisements. A telephone number is an optional addition to these requirements and not an alternative.

To comply with the Business Advertisements (Disclosure) Order 1977, Trade Advertisers must make it clear that they are selling goods in the course of business either by content, format, size or place of the advertisement or by including words such as 'trade', 'dealer', 'agent', 'wholesaler', '(T)' etc. in the advertisement.

3. The Publishers accept no liability whatsoever for any loss or damage however caused arising out of:

- Any error, inaccuracy or omission in the printing or publishing of any advertisement;
- Any failure to publish an advertisement on the day / date or day / dates specified by the advertiser; or
- Any delay in forwarding or omission to forward replies to box numbers to the Advertiser.

4. The Publishers will endeavour to publish advertisements on the day / date or day / dates specified by the Advertiser but insertion days / dates cannot be guaranteed.

5. Where shrinkage of advertisement occurs for whatever reasons the advertisement will be charged to the nearest full centimetre. This will NOT apply to the full-page advertisements, which remain full pages even after shrinkage.

6. The Publishers reserve the right to reject an advertisement or to vary it in any way they deem fit, at any time before publication, whether or not the advertisement has already been accepted for publication.

7. Whilst every effort is made to minimise errors in advertisements, mistakes do sometimes occur. Advertisers or their agents should therefore check their advertisements and inform us of any errors immediately. Responsibility cannot be accepted for more than one incorrect insertion. Typographical or minor changes, which do not affect the value of the advertisement, do not qualify for republication or allowances.

8. All gross advertising rates (except classified lineage and semi-display) are subject to and include a 0.1% Advertising Standards Board of Finance surcharge, payable by the advertisers to help finance the self-regulatory control system administered by the Advertising Standards Authority.

9. All rates quoted are subject to VAT at the rate currently in force at the time the advertisement appears.

10. Should the rate for advertisements be altered the price for remaining insertions shall be revised accordingly or the publishers shall have the right to cancel the unexpired portion of the order.

11. The placing of an advertisement order will be deemed an acceptance of these conditions.

12. Account facilities are granted at the discretion of the Company.

13. All accounts must be settled within the terms agreed by the Company and the Customer.

(1) Should an advertiser be in breach of the agreed terms, the publisher shall be entitled to levy a 10% surcharge on the value of the whole debt in respect of accounts with terms of less than 30 days, and any discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed.

(2) Regular monthly accounts that are in breach of the agreed terms will pay an interest rate of 6% above the current bank of England base rate for each month that the account is overdue and discounts or commissions that had been allowed will be reclaimed. Should Legal action be required the interest will be charged in accordance with the County Court Act 1984.

14. Where an advertiser instructs / appoints an advertising agent to act on their behalf, the advertiser will remain jointly and severally liable for payment in respect for an advertisement(s) should the appointed agent fail to pay. For the avoidance of doubt, the agent acts for the advertiser and not for the publisher with the agent being responsible for notifying the advertiser of this liability.

15. All queries must be notified, preferably in writing to the accounts department of the publisher within 7 days of the invoice date.

16. All digital services are maintained in partnership with the publishers' hosting service providers. Every effort is made to ensure the continuity of these services, but some occasional technical downtime beyond the publishers control may occur. The publisher and its associated companies shall be under no liability if the production and distribution of web services is delayed or prevented by any cause beyond the control of the publisher.

17. The Publisher may provide voucher copies for published advertisements in electronic form only subject to certain criteria. Further information is available on request.

18. The copyright of advertisements produced wholly or partially by the Publishers belong to the Publishers. Advertisers may not reproduce such advertisements without the Publishers' consent.

Box Numbers

Boxes are open for the receipt of bona fide answers and are not available for distribution of trade canvassing matter. Original testimonials, goods, cash, cash stamps or payments of any kind must not be enclosed. A box Number and postal address are charged as part of the advertisement, i.e. Box No., centre address. There is no charge for forwarding replies.

Box numbers alone are not available for use in 'Trade' advertisements, other than Employment and Business Opportunities.

Holiday & Travel Category

All advertising must contain the name of the advertiser, phone number alone are not permitted.

Data Protection

The service you have requested may require us to carry out a credit search at a credit-referencing agency, which will record the fact that a search has been made. We may need to share your information with other lenders and credit reference agencies. However, we will only use the information from these searches to make credit-granting decisions and, if necessary, for fraud prevention or tracing debtors.

Data controller will use your information for administration and analysis. We may share your information with other Tindle Group Newspaper companies or carefully selected third parties. We, or they, may send you details of other goods and services, which may be of interest to you. The information may be provided by letter, telephone or other reasonable means of communication. Calls may be recorded or monitored for training purposes.

Special conditions apply with regard to the advertising of adult services, which are outlined to all persons submitting such advertisements.

Public Notices

**DEREK ROBERT PEERE
WILLIAMS-FREEMAN
(Deceased)**

Pursuant to the Trustee Act 1925, notice is hereby given that any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of 903 Howard House, Dolphin Square, London SW1V 3PQ, who died on 17/2/2015 are required to send written particulars to the undersigned on or before 29/3/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Rathbone Trust Company Limited,
1 Curzon Street, London W1J 5BF,
(Ref: BDL)

To advertise in the

**Classified
Section**

Tel: 020 8768 4919

**GEORGE BRIAN
BROWN
(Deceased)**

Pursuant to s27 of the Trustee Act 1925, notice is hereby given that any persons having a claim against or an interest in the Estate of the above named, late of Flat 5, 9-11 Manson Place, London, SW7 5LT, who died on 19/7/2015 are required to send written particulars to the undersigned on or before 20/3/2016, after which date the Estate will be distributed having regard only to the claims and interests of which they have had notice.

Lee Brown, The London Gazette (1103), PO Box 3584, Norwich, NR7 7WD

To
advertise
in this,
section
please call

**020
8768 4921**

London's Weekly News &
South London's MERCURY

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (WILLIAM CHURCH HOUSING ESTATE (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the William Church Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the William Church Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate 9am - 10pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or an valid contractor's parking permit or an activated SMART Visitor permit relating to the William Church Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the William Church Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the William Church Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address: Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 13th day of January 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

PLACE YOUR PREMISES LICENCE WITH US FOR ONLY £112 plus VAT

Call Candy
020 8768 4919

Deadline is Friday at 3pm

e-mail: classified@slp.co.uk
www.southlondon-today.co.uk

Tel: 020 8768 4939

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING PLACES) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 6 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984, as amended.
- The general effect of the Order would be to provide electric vehicle charging places, each for two vehicles, at the following roads:
 - Black's Road,;
 - Du Cane Road,;
 - Farm Lane,;
 - Gayford Road,;
 - Parsons Green,;
 - Standish Road,;
 - Thaxton Road,;
 - Wolverton Gardens,.

The charging places would operate at any time and be for the use of electric vehicles only, provided they are being charged at an adjacent charging post. No charge would be made for the use of the charging places.
- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address: Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 13th day of January 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM ROAD TRAFFIC REGULATION ACT 1984 THE HAMMERSMITH AND FULHAM (CLEM ATTLEE HOUSING ESTATE) (OFF STREET CAR PARK) ORDER 20**

- NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith and Fulham propose to make the above Order under section 32, 35 and 124 of and Part I to IV of schedule 9 of the Road Traffic Regulation Act 1984 as amended.
- The general effect of the Orders would be to enable the parking places and restrictions on waiting by vehicles (yellow lines) on the Clem Attlee Housing Estate to be enforced under the provisions of the Traffic Management Act 2004. This means that Penalty Charge Notices could be issued by the Council's Civil Enforcement Officers to vehicles that contravene the parking restrictions, and vehicles may be removed (towed away) or immobilised (clamped) in certain cases, in the same way as on the public highway. The same rights of appeal to an adjudicator would also apply.
- The parking restrictions on the Clem Attlee Estate would continue to operate (without any changes) as follows:
 - the parking restrictions to operate 9am - 8pm;
 - every vehicle must be parked wholly within a marked parking bay (vehicles are not permitted to park in any other areas on the estate, including footways);
 - parking permits to be issued in accordance with on street parking permit charges as set by the Council in respect of motor vehicles that is to say a passenger vehicle or goods carrying vehicle the overall height of which does not exceed 2.28 metres.
 - only vehicles displaying a valid resident's parking permit or an valid contractor's parking permit or an activated SMART Visitor permit relating to the Clem Attlee Estate would be permitted to park in a permit holders parking bay;
 - resident's parking permits and SMART visitor's parking permits to be issued only to eligible residents of the Clem Attlee Estate;
 - resident's permits would only be issued to residents who can show that their vehicle is registered as kept at their home address on the Clem Attlee Estate;
 - A motorcycle, may be left in a parking bay free of charge, provided the use of that part of the parking place is not closed or reserved by order of the Council;
 - where a parking bay is indicated as being for the use of a disabled person's vehicle, only a vehicle displaying a disabled person's blue badge may be left in that parking bay;
 - where a bay is indicated as being for the use of loading only, a vehicle may wait for the purpose of delivering or collecting or loading or unloading the vehicle at premises adjacent to the loading place in which the vehicle is waiting for a period not exceeding twenty minutes and not return to that loading bay within one hour.

- A copy of the proposed Orders, the Councils statement of reasons for proposing to make the Orders and documents giving more detailed particulars of the proposed Orders, can be inspected during normal office hours on Mondays to Fridays inclusive until the end of a period of 6 weeks beginning with the date on which the Orders are made, or as the case may be, the Council decides not to make the Orders
- Any person wishing to object to the proposed Orders or make other representations should send a statement in writing to the following address: Transport and Highways Group, Highways and Engineering Division, Environment Department, Town Hall Extension, King Street, Hammersmith, W6 9JU until the expiration of 21 days from the date on which the notice is published.

Dated this 13th day of January 2016

Nicholas Ruxton-Boyle
Chief Transport Planner
Transport and Highways

Local Planning Applications London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham

PLANNING (LISTED BUILDINGS AND CONSERVATION AREAS) ACT 1990
I give notice that applications have been made to the Council of the London Borough of Hammersmith & Fulham as follows:
FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE CHARACTER OR APPEARANCE OF A CONSERVATION AREA

34 Fulham Palace Road London W6 9PH 2015/05903/FUL
Use of part of the public highway for the placing of 2no tables and 4no chairs.

36 Fulham Palace Road London W6 9PH 2015/05904/FUL
Use of part of the public highway for the placing of 2no table and 2no benches.

24 Chiddingstone Street London SW6 3TG 2015/04265/FUL
Erection of rear extension at second floor level on top of the existing back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden in connection with the enlargement of the basement, installation of folding doors to rear elevation at ground floor level.

21 Effie Road London SW6 1EN 2015/04542/FUL

Erection of a terrace of 4 x three-storey houses plus basement; alterations to the existing self-storage facility by the erection of extensions at ground, first and second floors to the existing extension for Class B1 (office) use at ground floor and additional Class B8 (self-storage) space at first and second floors, erection of an infill extension on the northern elevation at second and third floor level, and the erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a replacement single storey electricity sub-station (south east corner of site); reconfiguration of vehicular access/egress to enter site via Effie Road and exit via Argon Mews, and associated car parking and landscaping.

281 Goldhawk Road London W12 9EU 2015/00050/FUL

Replacement of existing front entrance door and garage doors with new timber doors; erection of new railings to both sides of the steps and replacement of 3no timber windows with new aluminium framed windows to the front elevation; installation of a new dome rooflight above the flat roof of side extension; installation of an air conditioning unit at the rear of the property.

9 Bryony Road London W12 0SR 2016/00059/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension; installation of two rooflights in the front roofslope and one rooflight in the side roofslope.

Latymer Upper School 237 King Street London W6 9LR 2016/00068/ADV

Display of an externally illuminated advertisement screen around porta cabins along the Great West Road elevation measuring 6m (height) x 16m (width) x 0.1m (depth) for a temporary period.

4 Tyravley Road London SW6 4QQ 2016/00035/FUL

Erection of a front and rear roof extension; erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition.

405 - 411 New King's Road London SW6 4RL 2016/00037/FUL

Demolition and re-building of existing boundary wall fronting New King's Road elevation.

405 - 411 New King's Road London SW6 4RL 2015/05406/ADV

Display of an internally illuminated free standing digital advertisement screen measuring 3m (height) x 6m (width) x 0.5m (depth) at 415 New King's Road following the removal of 5no existing externally illuminated advertising screens fronting 405 - 411 New King's Road (Amended description).

12 Bradbourne Street London SW6 3TE 2016/00018/FUL

Excavation of the front garden to form a lightwell in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

The Quadrangle 49 Atalanta Street London SW6 6TU 2015/05992/FUL

Alterations to the front elevation at second floor level including the replacement of the existing curved gable feature with a parapet between the pilasters and stone finials; installation of obscure film to the existing northern windows to the front elevation at second floor level.

49 Ravenscourt Road London W6 0UJ 2015/05600/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension at basement level and installation of new French doors; replace the existing French doors to rear elevation at ground floor level with new double French doors; installation of new railings and trellis on top of the basement extension in connection with the use of the flat roof as a terrace at ground floor level; replacement of external steps from ground floor level to rear garden (amended description).

2 Cronchace Road London SW6 4BA 2015/05919/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at third floor level over part of the existing back addition; excavation of part of the front garden and part of the rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement and lowering of the existing basement.

38 St Peter's Square London W6 9NW 2015/05835/FUL

Erection of glass conservatory at rear lower ground floor level; removal of external steps down to garden; replacement of non-original door openings with window; replacement of modern windows with timber sashes; relocation of rear internal basement stair; replacement of non-original door to front lightwell; enlargement of existing door openings in basement; felling of tree in rear garden.

38 St Peter's Square London W6 9NW 2015/05835/FUL

Erection of glass conservatory at rear lower ground floor level; removal of external steps down to garden; replacement of non-original door openings with window; replacement of modern windows with timber sashes; relocation of rear internal basement stair; replacement of non-original door to front lightwell; enlargement of existing door openings in basement; felling of tree in rear garden.

Crescent Club 3 North End Crescent London W14 8TG 2016/00014/FUL

Installation of a new shopfront.

14 Novello Street London SW6 4JB 2016/00078/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at roof level; use of the flat roof to the front elevation at roof level as a terrace; excavation of the front garden to form a lightwell in connection with the creation of a new basement.

90 Cardross Street London W6 0DR 2015/05955/FUL

Erection of a part one, part two and part three storey plus-basement single family dwellinghouse; provision of 2no off street car parking spaces at the front of the property.

31 Holmead Road London SW6 2JD 2015/06056/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a part one, part two storey rear extension at second and third floor level; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement; bricking up of existing windows to the side of rear back addition at first floor level; installation of new doors to replace the existing door at ground floor level to the rear elevation; conversion of the existing building from 2no self-contained flats into a single family dwellinghouse.

31 Holmead Road London SW6 2JD 2015/06057/FUL

Erection of an additional floor at roof level; erection of a part one, part two storey rear extension at second and third floor level; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side of the existing back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the creation of a new basement; bricking up of existing windows to the side of rear back addition at first floor level; installation of new doors to replace the existing door at ground floor level to the rear elevation; conversion of the existing building from 2no self-contained flats into a single family dwellinghouse.

12 Ackmar Road London SW6 4UP 2016/00032/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at second floor level over part of the existing back addition; excavation of the front and rear garden to form lightwells in connection with the enlargement of the existing basement.

Hammersmith Embankment Site Known As 'Fulham Reach' - Banded Bounded by Chancery's Road, Distillery Road And Winslow Road, Including Sections Of Thames Path, River Thames, Frank Banfield Park And Highway Land London W6

2015/05893/ADV

Display of an internally illuminated fascia sign, display of ten non-illuminated fascia signs, display of an internally illuminated projecting sign, display of a vinyl door sign to Unit 10, Block B.

197 New King's Road London SW6 4SR 2016/00027/FUL

Use of existing wooden decked area to the front forecourt as an outside seating area comprising of 2 no. tables, 4 no. chairs and bench seating and surrounded by wooden planters.

Flat First Floor 21 Richford Street London W6 7HJ 2015/06065/FUL

Erection of glass screen to the rear elevation at roof level in connection with its use as a terrace; installation of a glass access door at roof level.

First Floor 34 Comeragh Road London W14 9HR 2015/05618/FUL

Replacement of timber single glazed sash windows and French door with new double glazed uPVC windows and French doors to front elevation at first floor level.

Flat B First Floor 25 Ellaline Road London W6 9NZ 2016/00066/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height by 200mm; and installation of 3no. rooflights in the front roofslope.

Marcus Garvey Park, Gorleston Street London, And Part Of Gorleston Street And 6-12 Gorleston Street London W14 8XS 2015/05957/FUL

Erection of a site compound comprising of 3 containers, site hoardings and associated external works.

Flat 1 179 - 181 North End Road London W14 9NL 2015/06063/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at first floor level on top of the existing back addition.

632A King's Road London SW6 2DU 2016/00025/FUL

Erection of a rear extension at first floor level, on top of the existing back addition; alterations to the side of rear back addition at first floor level to include installation of new windows.

8, 10a, And 12 - 22 (Even) Shorrolds Road London SW6 7TP 2016/00028/FUL

Erection of front roof extensions to Nos. 8, 10a, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 22 Shorrolds Road.

15 Sandilands Road London SW6 2BD 2016/00045/FUL

Erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height; installation of 2 no. rooflights in the front roofslope; erection of a rear extension at first floor level to the side of the existing back addition; erection of a single storey rear extension.



Flat A Basement 14 Bassein Park Road London W12 9RY 2015/05664/FUL

Erection of a single storey rear extension.

FOR CONSERVATION AREA CONSENT (DEMOLITION WORK) FOR LISTED BUILDING CONSENT 131 The Grampians Shepherd's Bush Road London W6 7NB 2015/05761/LBC

Removal of a non-load bearing blockwork partition wall and integral cupboard within existing kitchen; widening of kitchen door; relocation of bathroom door position and associated removal of former door surround and head; installation of FD30 fire rated doors to all rooms; reconfiguration of bathroom and kitchen layout and installation of new fittings.

38 St Peter's Square London W6 9NW 2015/05836/LBC

Erection of glass conservatory at rear lower ground floor level; removal of external steps down to garden; replacement of non-original door openings with window; replacement of modern windows with timber sashes; relocation of rear internal basement stair; replacement of non-original door to front lightwell; enlargement of existing door openings in basement; felling of tree in rear garden.

FOR DEVELOPMENT WHICH MAY AFFECT THE SETTING OF A LISTED BUILDING

Marcus Garvey Park, Gorleston Street London, And Part Of Gorleston Street And 6 - 12 Gorleston Street London W14 8XS 2015/05957/FUL

Erection of a site compound comprising of 3 containers, site hoardings and associated external works.

8, 10a, And 12 - 22 (Even) Shorrolds Road London SW6 7TP 2016/00028/FUL

Erection of front roof extensions to Nos. 8, 10a, 12, 14, 16, 18, 20 and 22 Shorrolds Road.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **7th February 2016**.

See below for ways of commenting on applications.

THE TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT PROCEDURE) ORDER 2015

REGULATIONS UNDER REGULATION 13 67 - 69 Aspenlea Road London W6 8LH 2015/05807/FUL

I give notice that MORGANS DAIRY LTD. is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Demolition of existing mixed use building comprising of part residential (Class C3) and part light industrial use (Class B1), and the erection of part two, part three and part four storey plus-basement building to provide 6 x two bedroom self-contained flats (Class C3); formation of roof terraces at second floor level.

8 Furness Road London SW6 2LH 2015/06026/FUL

I give notice that Mr Linden Dover is applying to HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL for planning permission to carry out the following development: Conversion of a single family dwelling house into 1no. two bedroom maisonette and 1no. two bedroom flat; erection of a rear roof extension, involving an increase in the ridge height; erection of a single storey rear extension to the side and rear of the existing back addition; installation of 2no. rooflights in the front roofslope; erection of a 1.7 metre high obscured glazed balustrade around part of the flat roof at second floor level of the existing two storey back addition, in connection with its use as a roof terrace; installation of a door in the rear elevation at second floor level to provide access to this roof terrace; installation of a window in the rear elevation at first floor level to replace existing; and installation of 2no. front doors in the front elevation at ground floor level to replace existing door.

Anyone who wishes to make representations about these applications should do so by **7th February 2016**.

See below for ways of commenting on applications.

Signed: **NIGEL PALLACE**

Executive Director for Transport and Technical Services

on behalf of HAMMERSMITH & FULHAM COUNCIL

You can view applications, make comments and monitor their progress on our website: www.lbhf.gov.uk/planning.

Click on the 'Planning Online' logo on the Planning Home Page.

You can also E-mail comments to: plancomments@lbhf.gov.uk

You can also inspect details of applications using computers at our office RECEPTION, FIRST FLOOR HAMMERSMITH TOWN HALL EXTENSION, KING STREET W6 between 9.00am and 5.00pm, Monday to Friday, excluding public holidays.

If you want to make comments on applications please E-mail them through our website or post them to **DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT SERVICE ENVIRONMENT SERVICES DEPARTMENT, TOWN HALL, KING STREET W6 9JU** by the date shown above. Please include the application reference number and the name of the planning officer. We will try to consider any representations received after the date indicated but this cannot be guaranteed so please reply promptly. For initial enquiries call our information and reception service on **020 8753 1081** or **020 8753 1082**.

NOTICE UNDER ARTICLE 13 FOR PLANNING PERMISSION

Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2015

Proposed development at K1, Site bounded by Brompton Road, Sloane Street, Basil Street and Hooper's Court and including 33-35 Brompton Road, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea

I give notice that Carraig Investments Sarl is applying to the Royal Borough of Kensington Chelsea for planning permission for

"Demolition of 33-35 Brompton Road; partial demolition of 4a/5 Sloane Street at basement, ground and first floor level and partial demolition of nos. 1-9 Brompton Road and 1-3 Sloane Street, 13-27 Brompton Road and 2-8 Basil Street, 29-31 Brompton Road and 10-14 Basil Street behind retained facades. Redevelopment of the Site to provide retail use, office, residential and restaurant use in a part seven, part eight storey building above three storey basement level. Relocation of existing London Underground entrance; creation of space to facilitate the provision of a new step-free London Underground entrance on Hooper's Court; together with amenity space, public realm enhancements, plant, car parking, servicing and access works, electricity sub-station and other associated works."

Any owner* of the land or tenant** who wishes to make representations about this application should write to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea at RBKC, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London, W8 7NX by 1st February 2016

* "owner" means a person having a freehold interest or a leasehold interest the unexpired term of which is not less than 7 years, or, in the case of development consisting of the winning or working of minerals, a person entitled to an interest in a mineral in the land (other than oil, gas, coal, gold or silver).

** "tenant means a tenant of an agricultural holding any part of which is comprised in the land

Signed: DP9 Ltd

On behalf of Carraig Invesments Sarl

Date 19th January 2016

Statement of owner's rights

The grant of planning permission does not affect owners' rights to retain or dispose of their property, unless there is some provision to the contrary in an agreement or in a lease.

Statement of agricultural tenants' rights

The grant of planning permission for non-agricultural development may affect agricultural tenants' security of tenure.

Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Regulations 1990

NOTICE UNDER REGULATION 6(2)

Proposal for altering 4a/5 Sloane Street (Part of Site K1, Site bounded by Brompton Road, Sloane Street, Basil Street and Hooper's Court and including 33-35 Brompton Road, Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea)

Notice is hereby given that application is being made to the Royal Borough of Kensington and Chelsea by Carraig Investments Sarl for listed building consent for

"Alterations to the ground floor façade to Sloane Street with insertion of new fenestration to the existing window openings. Removal of party walls between 4a and 5 at ground level and basement levels and links made in the party walls to adjacent properties. Lowering of basement floor level and the removal of staircases to basement."

Any owner of the building (namely a freeholder, or a leaseholder entitled to an unexpired term of at least seven years) who wishes to make representations to the above-mentioned Council about the application should make them in writing no later than 8th February 2016 at RBKC, Town Hall, Hornton Street, London W8 7NX.

Signed: DP9 Ltd

On behalf of Carraig Invesments Sarl

Date 19th January 2016

LONDON WEEKLY JOBS

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LONDON WEEKLY NEWS

sport

Why Rangers had to let Austin leave

ACCUSATIONS of bungling incompetence have been aimed at a succession of Queens Park Rangers board members and managers through the years but I'm not among those who think the current regime have handled the Charlie Austin transfer saga poorly.

Naturally, supporters are dismayed that the club has lost its best player, their most prolific striker since Les Ferdinand 20-plus years ago.

For long-suffering fans arriving in Rotherham at Saturday lunch-time, the news released just two hours before the game that Austin had been sold to Southampton for a fee widely believed to be in the region of £4million must have come as a sickening blow.

But what else was the Rangers board to do? After relegation from the top flight last May, they were in a no-win situation. Had they accepted a reported £12m bid from Leicester City (apparently, Austin didn't fancy the move), they would have been accused by fans of cashing-in on their most prized asset and leaving the side bereft of its best player.

So they kept him in the laudable hope that his goals would propel the club to immediate promotion.

It wasn't their fault that Austin suffered a serious calf injury in the 4-0 defeat at Fulham in September and has struggled to regain full fitness ever since.

In the end, the player and Southampton left QPR with no option but to let him go. Players have all the power in football these days.

It emerged that Austin had reversed his earlier decision to stay at Loftus Road and made it clear that he now wanted to return to the Premier League with a well-managed club on the up.

He has signed a lucrative four-and-a-half year contract at Southampton, probably

a hefty signing-on fee too and, according to mischievous West Ham co-owner David Gold, is now copping £100,000 per week at St Mary's.

Had QPR owner Tony Fernandes turned down Saints' offer and forced his talismanic striker to see out his contract in W12, a deeply disgruntled Austin would have walked away for nothing at the end of the season.

Reality

True, he has scored 10 goals in 16 appearances this campaign but despite his efforts, the reality is that R's are still languishing in the bottom half of the Championship table and face an uphill battle to close an 11-point gap by reaching the play-offs from 15th place.

No-one knows how much more Austin would have contributed to a hoped for belated promotion push had he stayed in west London.

Fact is, he has not played since scoring twice as a sub in the 2-2 home draw against Brighton on December 15. Whether he missed all or some of those six subsequent matches to preserve fitness ahead of his imminent transfer, only he and the club can reveal. It would come as an insult to the fans if their goalscoring hero has been wrapped up in cotton wool with a move in mind.

What is indisputable, however, is that Austin is injury-prone, struggling with calf and hamstring strains that may stem from a weakness in his back.

So for cash-strapped QPR to recoup the £4m they paid Burnley for 26-year-old Austin in August 2013, it's a good deal for all parties.

The big question the fans and manager Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink will be asking is: how much of the £4m Austin money will be reinvested in the team and who will be joining the club before the end of the month?

Speaking after Saturday's 3-0 victory at Rotherham, his first win in nine games since taking charge in December, Hasselbaink said: "We will look to bring someone in if we can."

"There are probably two vacancies for front players in the squad. We are actively looking."

"But we need to find the right player to take us forward."

On the Austin transfer, he said: "Charlie came to see me yesterday and told me he had the opportunity to go to Southampton and he wanted to take it."

"We were preparing for him to stay here, because a month ago he told me he wanted to stay until the end of the season. We were planning for him to stay here."

"But things change in football all of the time and this decision was made in the best interests of the club."

"Charlie wanted to go and have a new opportunity. Sometimes you can't stop the player, especially when he is in the last six months of his contract."

"He wanted an opportunity to move on and we wish him all the best."

"As a club, we move on. No one player is bigger than the club."



LOFTUS ROAD RANGERS REVIEW

With Tony McDonald

QPR director of football Les Ferdinand said: "It's no secret that Charlie is out of contract in the summer, so this is a decision made in the best financial interests of the club."

Acknowledging Austin's impressive record of 48 goals in 89 appearances for Hoops, Ferdinand added: "Charlie has had a significant impact on this football club in his time here and we are hugely grateful to him for his contribution during his spell with us."

"Whilst we are sorry to lose Charlie, once he expressed an interest in moving to Southampton, we could not stand in his way."

Beneficiary

Sebastian Polter could be the chief beneficiary following Austin's departure. The German striker was on target again in the victory at struggling Rotherham, netting in the last minute after Junior Hoilett and Matt Phillips had scored earlier in the second-half.

A relieved Hasselbaink said: "We had some positive words at half-time. Not strong words – productive words. You don't always need to scream and shout in the dressing room."

"I keep saying that the players need to believe in themselves a bit more and today it showed that they have the ability to win games in style when they show belief."

■ ROBERT Green looks set to follow Charlie Austin through the Loftus Road exit door.

The former England keeper has been left out of recent matches and was not even among the substitutes at Rotherham on Saturday.

As one of the club's highest earners, along with midfielders Sandro and Leroy Fer, it's likely Green will be moving on before the end of the January transfer window.

On his decision to leave Green out of the squad, Hasselbaink said: "Rob's situation is different to Charlie's really."

"We are moving in a new direction as a club. We need to do certain things and I had to pick two goalkeepers from three today and I went with Alex (Smithies) and Joe (Lumley)."

"I wanted to start Alex but didn't want to drop Joe from the squad, so that is why I went with those two keepers today."



■ DIEGO Costa in action against West Bromwich Albion in last week's 2-2 draw at Stamford Bridge Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

Hiddink backing new Terry deal

■ From back page

"When Cesc scores and goes running off, you can feel the lift, the momentum it gives when you see players scoring, running off and celebrating the way we did. We believed we were going to come back and win the game. I really believe we had them. We were pressing them high up the pitch but it wasn't to be. We will move on."

Terry's value to this ailing Chelsea side cannot be overstated, and Hiddink recognises this.

Attitude and actions

"Yes, and not just with his equalising goal but also with his attitude and the actions he did defensively and offensively. His commitment in capitals – in capitals – is huge for this team and for the club."

So will he give the nod to Roman Abramovich offering Terry a new contract after his current one expires in July?

"If I am asked I will give my honest opinion about that," he said. "If I say what I'm saying now, spontaneously out of my heart, then you can imagine what I think."

One can only assume that's a 'yes', then. But, more than likely, Hiddink's opinion won't be sought by Abramovich, unless he is asked to continue in the job beyond this season.

The form of young France defender Kurt Zouma gives optimism that a natural replacement for Terry is already in situ and playing alongside him.

"He's also progressing," said Hiddink.

"I previously saw him from a distance and sometimes he was a little bit out of position but he's progressed very fast in the last year. We need those kind of players but John is also doing his job defensively very well. With his age and experience John is much more of a leader. Kurt is a very young player, not the type of leader John is yet. Many, many years with this huge experience. Kurt has a different way of playing."

Terry was a key figure in the side when Hiddink was at Stamford Bridge as interim manager in 2009. Is there much of a difference between the player then and now?

"For me there's not much (difference)

between John in 2009 and now," he said.

"You would have to underline that with data. You can say, 'hey, make a test' and say he has lost some speed but I cannot see that. He's fit, he trains well, he takes care of himself, takes a good rest, which you have to do at that age. I cannot see that he is slowing down a bit."

Hiddink is not thinking of dislodging his captain anytime soon.

Reminded that Terry is just six games away from the 700 club, Hiddink simply said: "I think he will make that."

With Arsenal looming on the horizon, how will Hiddink prepare his charges for the most difficult match since he returned to the west Londoners?

"We had a very busy schedule," he said. "We're going to have a little bit of rest this week to help them to recover and then we slowly build up to the Arsenal game. I think we will be fresh and I hope everyone is on board for the next game."

With the end of the transfer window getting closer, Hiddink is in a quandary about what to publicly reveal.

Chelsea have a 'one man out before one man in' policy but that often falls by the wayside depending on injuries.

"There's time to analyse but whatever we are planning, whether it's yes or no, we will not go public before it's gone through," he said.

Decision to make

"It depends also which players – and I'm talking about younger players... what do they learn when they stay, or do they learn more when they go somewhere else to play? That's the decision we can make this week. In principle, I prefer the boys who are here now to stay until the end of the season."

When asked about the possible arrival of Brazilian Pato, he said: "I don't talk about names."

But when prompted about Diego Costa's injury status possibly forcing new recruits, Hiddink added: "Let's wait on the (injury) report. We will give you an update when the report is out. If it's negative, then yes, we start thinking (about replacements) in a very quick way."



■ CHARLIE Austin wanted to leave QPR Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South

FOOTBALL FIXTURES

Saturday, January 23

QPR v Wolves, 12.30

FULHAM v Hull, 3.00

Sunday, January 24

Arsenal v CHELSEA, 4.00

Tuesday, January 26

Nottingham Forest v QPR, 7.45

SPORT

Thursday, January 21st, 2016

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Hungry Terry wants more

CHELSEA visit Premier League leaders Arsenal on Sunday languishing in 14th place, with relegation a much more realistic proposition than a tilt at a Champions League slot.

Saturday's 3-3 draw at home to Everton has finally scuppered any lingering hope that beleaguered Blues could somehow claw their way into the top four.

It's been a month since "the individual" – as director of football Michael Emenalo so revealingly and ungraciously called Jose Mourinho – was ousted by the "palpable discord" of player power at Stamford Bridge.

In came interim boss Guus Hiddink to replace 'The Special One'.

They have won just once in the league in that time – a 3-0 win at misfiring Crystal Palace.

Four draws – three at once fortress Stamford Bridge – have clouded the notion that Chelsea have turned the corner post-Mourinho. Against Everton,

● By LWN reporter **Paul Lagan**
sport@londonweeklynews.co.uk

Hiddink's side enjoyed all the luck in one game that had been eluding the Portuguese this season.

The first goal for Diego Costa resulted from a mix-up between Everton's Phil Jagielka and Tim Howard, leaving the striker to tap the ball into an empty net. By then, Blues were already 2-0 down.

Offside position

A deflected effort by Cesc Fabregas – his first goal in 26 games – brought the scores level. And when Everton took the lead on 90 minutes, up popped John Terry, in an offside position, to earn a point in the eighth minute of seven minutes added time.

Fans celebrated as if it was a win but the truth is, troubled Chelsea are getting what they deserve – not much.

But Terry, 35, cares not a jot as he revels in the adoration heaped on him by the fans and even gets the

backing of Hiddink for a new one-year contract.

"The first half was quiet," he said. "The second was the complete opposite. To go 2-0 down was really disappointing but the reaction was unbelievable – firstly from the fans.

"When the fans stood up in the Matthew Harding Stand when we were 2-0 down and started singing, it gave the whole team a massive lift, so it's a big thanks to them. That's why I went in there for my celebration when I scored – it was worth the booking I got from the ref.

"Once we got one, we got the second and but for the injury to Bryan Oviedo we would have gone on to win the game because we had the momentum then, we were at them. But we are still happy with a point and being undefeated (since Hiddink's arrival)."

How did Terry see his late, late winner, an improvised back-heel after Everton had regained the lead in the 90th minute?

"It was just one of those moments. The ball was flicked on. I was offside, and can't argue with that, but I managed to just flick it over the keeper.



■ JOHN Terry talks to the ref during last week's home draw with West Brom Pic: Rob Newell/Digital South



This week at STAMFORD BRIDGE

"The momentum in those moments is unbelievable for the supporters and I think they probably go away happy. From being 2-0 down, it half feels like a win.

"The character that we showed is everything they have been demanding from us and rightly so. That fight could really kick us on. To come back from 2-0 against a really good side was superb.

"In the second-half I fancied getting a goal," he said. "I had a goal taken off me a couple of years ago against Everton, they gave it to 'Lamps' instead, so I was owed that one. It was a little bit of a revenge mission."

Terry was also full of praise for Diego Costa. "You talk about players standing up, going around really fighting for everything," said Terry. "That's Diego and it is why the fans love him. It's never say die, he never gives up. That goal summed him up completely."

However, Costa remains a doubt for the trip to The Emirates after hobbling off in the 80th minute with a bruised shin.

Approaches 700 outings

At 35, Terry can't have too many seasons left in him but as he approaches 700 outings for Blues, he still wants more. Does he still have it in his legs to perform?

"I certainly think so. When you get to a certain age, there are a lot of people out there who think, 'he's 35, going on 36, and maybe his legs have gone'. But I have never had legs, it's as simple as that," he said.

"I have never been quick all my career. For me it's lazy journalism from everyone. It just gets in their heads. But physically, I'm probably feeling as good as I've ever felt in the last two or three years. I'm in the right state of mind. I'm still hungry. I want to win and finish my career here.

"But I'm not thinking of that. Last year, it was a couple of months from now before things (a new contract) got sorted. For me, the most important thing is to get us up the league table.

"Hopefully that comes and I will just have to keep plugging away."

It was a bitter-sweet afternoon for the central defender whose own-goal gave Everton the lead five minutes into the second-half.

Terry explained: "Leighton Baines put a great ball in and I actually got a decent touch on it but it hit my other knee and went in," he said. "It was one of those moments. I was in the right position, I just didn't deal with the cross very well. It's part and parcel of being a defender, facing your own goal.

"I was disappointed, of course, but the reaction from everyone after that was, 'we have nothing to lose, let's throw everything at it'.

Did the own-goal affect him?

"Not at all.

■ Continued on page 27



Focus on Craven Cottage

By TONY McDONALD

Fulham seek loan deals

FULHAM will turn to the loan market this week in an attempt to sign reinforcements that will hopefully ease fears of being sucked into a relegation battle.

Saturday's 1-1 draw at Huddersfield Town leaves Whites in 19th place in the Championship table, four points above the drop zone and with just one win in their last 14 matches.

Even though it was the first league point gained since he took charge, head coach Slaviša Jokanović was not satisfied with the result.

"This is not my target, my target is to win the game," he said. "Generally, I believe we are starting to improve but there is still a big space in front of us.

"Our obligation is to play better football than we are playing right now. With more time, with more training, and if we can bring people in next week on loan, we can make these steps.

"It's important for us and soon I think we can compete with every Championship team. And that's it, simple."

The visitors were gifted their opening goal inside two minutes, when Huddersfield

presented the ball to Ross McCormack on a plate. The grateful Scot slid the ball home from 12 yards for his 17th of the season.

It's crucial that Fulham don't lose either McCormack or fellow striker Moussa Dembélé, who are both being linked with other clubs, during the January transfer window.

While Fulham need to add another striker to their squad following the loss of Cauley Woodrow due to injury, strengthening his defence will probably be Jokanović's priority.

Conceded from a set-piece

Yet again, Whites conceded from a set piece. This time a Huddersfield free-kick from the right found Mark Hudson stealing in on the blind side of the Fulham back four to head Town's 19th minute equaliser.

It could have been worse, though. Huddersfield's Paterson curled a shot against the post, while Fulham keeper Andy Lonergan made a couple of important second-half saves to keep it at 1-1.

"We need to be more solid, we need to still be more prepared to compete. This is a

competition for big boys.

"At the same time we'll try and find some improvements in the loan market, because we cannot buy any player. I expect we'll make some steps soon – that's important for us.

"Now is the moment to draw a line under the last two weeks," he added. "We played four games and lost three and drew only one."

Fulham can only loan, rather than buy, players because they (along with Bolton Wanderers and Nottingham Forest) are under a transfer embargo for the rest of the season after breaching Football League rules in 2014-15.

Fulham and Forest both exceeded Financial Fair Play limits of permitted maximum losses of £6m for a season.

Fulham and Forest will have the opportunity to have the embargoes lifted in June.

To do so, they will need to prove they have stayed within an operating loss of no more than £3m, with a maximum of £3m of shareholder investment for the 2015-16 season.

Fulham face another tough test at Craven Cottage on Saturday when they host second placed Hull City, who smashed Charlton Athletic 6-0 last weekend, their fourth straight win.